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Foreign Commerce WEEKLY

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BRITISH "BRAIN MACHINE"

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BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE, AMOS E. TAYLOR, *Director*

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Britain Spurs Broad Industrial Research

Great Britain's Volume of World Trade, Its Commercial Vigor, Its Competitive Position, Are Being and Will Continue To Be Largely Influenced by the Success of the Alert and Forward-Looking Research Campaigns Outlined in This Article

By Ruth C. Leslie, *Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce*

IN GREAT BRITAIN, as in the United States, industry is keenly research-conscious. No longer do the words "scientific research" call to mind merely the lone worker in his laboratory peering into test tubes. The words are beginning to mean something exceedingly tangible—something which no industrial organization (indeed no business, large or small) can afford to ignore. That industrial research is a tool which is absolutely essential to the survival and expansion of any industry is a concept beginning to be accepted throughout the whole industrial structure of Great Britain and throughout the British Commonwealth. In short, as one writer expressed it: "British Industry is beginning to pull up its research socks."

Industrial Research Not New

Industrial research is, of course, by no means new to British industry. To the contrary, most of the comforts and luxuries that make possible the present high standard of daily living are the result of discoveries made through research.

What *is* new is the emphasis now being placed upon its use by *all* industry, large and small, and the awareness, shared even by the public, that without its full utilization declines and depressive influences might be expected.

Who Is Concerned?

In Great Britain, as in the United States, industrial research is the joint concern of three groups—Government, educational institutions, and industry itself, including research associations, trade associations, and individual companies.

The field is not dominated by any single body—each has its own function, and the fact is clearly realized that only by understanding and cooperation among the three can real progress be made.

Governmental Research

The British Government's role in industrial research is mainly one of encouragement, stimulation, and assistance. It helps to build up a body of scientists by furnishing financial aid to universities and to research associations. The Government further fosters research in industry by favorable taxation policies in connection with funds allocated by industry for research purposes.

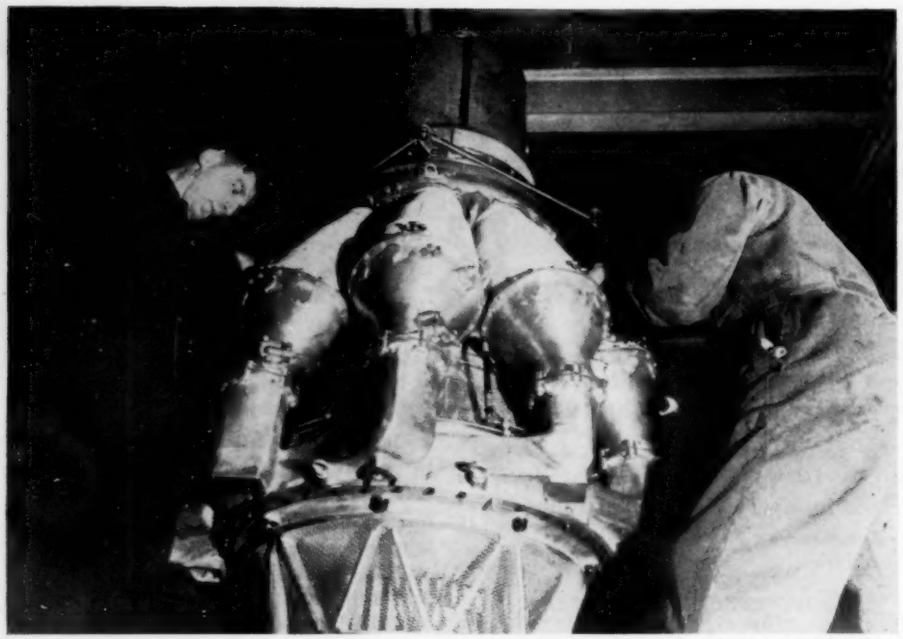
Although all departments of government in Great Britain conduct research in varying degree in connection with those things with which they are primarily concerned, governmental industrial research as such is centered in the stations of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (D. S. I. R.) and of the Agricultural and Medical Research Councils.

D. S. I. R.: Set-up and Purposes

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research was established in 1916 as a separate department of the Government with the Lord President of the Privy Council as its responsible Minister. The three outstanding policies laid down for the guidance of the Advisory Council of the D. S. I. R. are (1) the encourage-

British Official Photo

Scientists at Britain's Building Research Station find the answers to every kind of construction problem encountered in the United Kingdom today. Here we see a young technician working with an apparatus designed to measure the shrinkage of concrete.



British Official Photo

Britain experiments in the jet-engine field. Here a tremendously powerful aero engine is coming off the assembly line. This gas turbine engine is described as developing a thrust of more than 5,000 pounds.

ment of research workers; (2) the founding of cooperative research associations; and (3) the establishment of research stations.

Research Stations

At the present time the D. S. I. R. comprises 10 research stations. The nature of their work is indicated by their names. In order of their formation, they are: The National Physical Laboratory, the Geological Survey and the Museum of Practical Geology; the Fuel Research Station; the Food Research Station; the Building Research Station; the Forest Products Research Laboratory; the Radio Research Station; the Chemical Research Laboratory; the Water Pollution Laboratory; and the Road Research Laboratory.

The program of each station is drawn up on the advice of a Research Board consisting of outside scientific men and industrialists, with representatives of interested Government departments.

The general functions of the stations of the D. S. I. R. are (1) the establishment and maintenance of scientific standards and constants—e. g. the National Physical Laboratory; (2) the making of national surveys of the country's natural resources—e. g. the Geological Survey and the Fuel Research Station; (3) serving as independent testing centers—e. g. the National Physical Laboratory, Fuel Research, and Building Research stations; (4) the making of industrial investigations of national importance which industry itself is unable or unwilling to undertake. In one respect or another, all of the stations fall under this head, but there are certain limits to what is possible in the work undertaken.

Much of the work formerly done by the stations is now being done by the research associations, and, as these become more adequately supported by the firms comprising them, it may become possible to transfer an even larger portion. For example, the work of the Fuel Research Station may eventually be performed by the British Coal Utilization Research Association, the largest of the research associations, and by the Gas Research Board and the British Coke Research Association.

Research Association's Role

Perhaps the most far-reaching of the movements started by the D. S. I. R. is the scheme of cooperative research associations in all important manufacturing industries in the country. These associations act as central agencies to stand behind and supply the industries they represent with new ideas, new methods, and new standards of quality. The scheme is unique in character and represents a major factor in the history of British industrial research.

After the first World War the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research took the lead in furthering industrial research on a cooperative basis. Realizing that the manufacturer would need all possible assistance in developing research as a means of enlarging his output and improving the quality of his product, what is known as the Million Fund (£1,000,000) was established by the Department, and from this fund aid was given to cooperative research associations in those industries which cooperated with the Advisory Council of the D. S. I. R.

The cooperative research associations are autonomous bodies, created by the initiative of the leaders of the industries served, and organized and controlled by governing bodies elected by the subscribing firms. Programs of research are framed by the industrialists and carried out by staffs of their own appointing. The results are the property of the members. The Government normally claims no share in the profits and does not control the programs.

One main objective of the cooperative scheme was to enable the organizations to undertake work which could not be dealt with satisfactorily by individual firms—particularly long-range researchers.

These research associations have proved very valuable to small and large firms, alike. Many leading firms have long had extensive research laboratories of their own, but large numbers of small companies have had no such assistance. It has been estimated that about one-third of British industry is conducted by firms with 100 employees or less. By subscribing to a cooperative organization, the small firm obtains benefits that it could never hope to gain from its individual efforts.

A number of different bases have been used by the D. S. I. R. through the years in granting aid from the Million Fund to the various associations established under the cooperative scheme. During the initial 5 years, 1918–23, a £-for-£ basis was used on all income raised, provided a certain minimum industrial income was guaranteed. Also, an upper limit was placed upon the aid granted in each case. It was expected that the Million Fund would be exhausted during the first 5 years, and that the associations would be able to stand on their own feet by the end of that period. Neither of these expectations was fulfilled, however, and the Council of the D. S. I. R. has recently announced that the Government will continue its financial suport of these organizations indefinitely.

The financial growth of research associations during the period 1934–44 is indicated by the following statistics. During these years the minimum industrial income required to earn the maximum grant increased from slightly over £100,000 to more than £500,000. The maximum grant obtainable rose from just

(Continued on p. 29)

Plastics in Australia: Brisk Expansion Seen

Plastics Hold an Important Position in Australian Industry. Adaptability, Attractive Appearance, and Low Cost of Production Have Contributed to the Popularity of Plastics in Such Fields as Electrical Equipment, Adhesives, Paints, and Varnishes, and Manufacturers are Planning Further Developments

Prepared in the Chemical and Drug Division, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce (Based on Australian Tariff Board's Report of March 1946)

THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY in Australia, as in other parts of the world, is in competition with ceramics, metals, natural resins, wood and other materials employed in the manufacture of solid articles, adhesives, and surface coatings.

Publicity has overstressed the extent to which plastics are likely to replace older substances. However, they offer many advantages, among which are the ease with which articles of complicated shape, high finish, and attractive appearance can be manufactured at low cost.

Use of Plastics

Although it appears unlikely that plastics will directly replace wood and cement as construction materials, their use in bonding plywood and other forms of timber probably will develop on a large scale. Although plastics are said to have supplied the key to the manufacture of aircraft frames, these structures have been produced in Australia with casein-bonded plywood. The use of all-plastic materials in the manufacture of wings and bodies of aircraft is not likely to be developed.

The use of plastics has had its greatest development in Australia in the manufacture of electrical equipment. In this field they have almost completely replaced older materials in the manufacture of electrical fittings for buildings. The application of plastics for covering electrical conductors is expected to increase but not to the extent of completely replacing rubber and bitumin currently in use. Resin-impregnated paper and wood should also find wider applications for plastics materials.

In the adhesive field, synthetic resins are more likely to open up new uses for older materials than to replace the cheaper adhesives now in use. For example, resin-bonded plywood is waterproof, whereas casein-bonded is not, and the existence of the former has already led to considerable use of plywood under wet conditions where formerly it could not be employed. In this application, and others, the resistance of synthetic resins to insect and fungus attack has proved valuable in the tropics.

The consumption of synthetic resins in the varnish and enamel industry is already well established in the Commonwealth, but here again these items probably will continue to be used in conjunction with natural oils, gums, and resins.

Manufacturers of plastics endeavor to produce variations of their products or entirely new materials in order to increase sales. Australian plastic molders, paint manufacturers, and other consumers of plastics materials are aware of the necessity for keeping abreast of such developments. They are assisted in this respect by the domestic establishment of an impressive number of branches of the large resin and molding-powder producers of other countries, who supply technical aid and services to customers and information on new materials and methods developed overseas. Therefore, the development of Australian industries that use plastics is not likely to be handicapped by lack of knowledge or capital.

Molded Articles

Synthetic resins and molding powders utilized in the manufacture of plastic products are generally the largest items of cost. Molds are an extremely expensive item, but the cost of these per unit of production is small, if a sufficiently large volume of product output can be obtained. However, in the production of small quantities of finished items, molds may figure as a larger cost item than the plastics materials themselves.

A survey of the Australian molding industry was made by the Department of War Organization of Industry in 1942–43, and the report was made available for use in the Board's confidential report of July 26, 1944, and later published. The survey showed that during the war period 113 companies were molding plastics, and that 41 of them had entered the industry after the outbreak of hostilities. All but 4 of the total were situated in New South Wales and Victoria. Sales approximated £1,000,000 annually, and were double the prewar volume.

There were 32 manufacturers in New South Wales and 45 in Victoria represented at the Tariff Board Inquiry, 1945. The figures shown in table 1 relate to 16 firms in New South Wales and 19 in Victoria.

The Metal Trades Employers' Association of New South Wales, which compiled the data for that state, estimates that 16 companies not included in table 1 represent about one-third as much business as those that were included. No estimate was submitted for the remaining 26 manufacturers in Victoria. In table 2 is shown the relation between cost items listed in table 1.

Materials other than molding powders are used by molders. For some articles in which powders alone are utilized, for each £1 spent on wages, £5 or more are spent on materials; for other items even more may be spent on wages than on materials.

Plastics Materials

Phenol-formaldehyde is the most widely used synthetic resin in Australia and is employed in the manufacture of molded articles, paints, and impregnated materials. Except for a small quantity of special types, it is manufactured in Australia from domestically produced phenol and formaldehyde. When required as molding powder various fillers of domestic origin are added, together with lubricating and hardening agents

such as "hexamine," which is also of domestic production. Current consumption rate of phenol-formaldehyde is about 1,200 tons annually. About 660 tons are consumed in conjunction with an approximate equal weight of fillers (primarily wood flour) as utility-type molding powders. Wood flour is widely used as a filler, and one firm is equipped to supply it in the quantities needed.

TABLE 1.—*Statistics on Molded Articles*
[In pounds sterling except where otherwise indicated]

	New South Wales	Victoria
Capital employed	364,381	650,301
Employees:		
Male number	511	694
Female do	253	476
Total do	764	1,170
Wages paid, 1944–45	129,066	278,832
Materials used, 1944–45	165,887	367,905
Sales, 1944–45	493,345	861,958

TABLE 2.—*Relation Between Some of the Cost Items Shown in Table 1*
[Per £100 sales]

Cost item	New South Wales	Victoria	Average
Capital employed	73.9	75.4	74.9
Materials used	33.6	42.7	39.4
Wages paid	26.2	32.4	30.1

Phenolic molding powders are manufactured by several companies owned jointly by American, British, and Australian interests, and by other companies which are owned entirely by Australian firms. The companies that manufacture molding powders also produce resins for use in the paint, impregnation, and other industries. Approximately 540 tons of phenol-formaldehyde are used annually for production of modified oil-soluble paint resins and unmodified plywood-bonding resins. Some of the largest users of these resins also manufacture them for their own consumption, and a subsidiary of a large American firm manufactures them for the trade. Apart from 150 tons of special formulations which are imported chiefly in the form of molding compositions, all requirements of phenol-formaldehyde resins are supplied from domestic production.

Phenol-furfuraldehyde in Australia is confined to use as a modifying agent in certain types of phenol-formaldehyde molding compositions. The extent to which it will replace or supplement phenol-formaldehyde will be governed by relative production costs of formalin and furfural. Small-scale local production of furfural from farm-waste products (oat hulls, straw, and the like) has been commenced in a pilot plant operated by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Another small plant designed to use wood chips as raw material is under construction at Burnie, Tasmania, by the Associated Pulp & Paper Co. A larger plant having a capacity of 70 tons per year is to be erected to make furfural for manufacture of cresol-furfural brake-lining compounds.

Cresol-formaldehyde resins are used for plywood bonding, laminating paper and canvas, and in conjunction with furfural for the production of shock-resistant brake linings. Apart from several small consumers who make their own requirements, there is only one manufacturer whose output is expected to approximate 150 to 200 tons per year. This condition may result in increasing the use of cresol-formaldehyde resins in cheaper grades of surface coatings. Xylenol-formaldehyde is produced by one firm in Victoria for use in paint. Output is only a few tons per year, and production is not expected to increase materially.

Urea-formaldehyde molding compositions are all imported into Australia, although one company is awaiting arrival of necessary equipment for the manufacture of molding powders. Three companies, however, make urea-formaldehyde resins for use in paints and adhesives. Chemicals used in the manufacture of urea powders and resins are mainly of Australian origin except urea which is imported from the United Kingdom.

Alkyds, which rank second in quantity of the synthetic resins consumed in Australia, are used primarily by the surface-coating industry, especially as vehicles in both air-drying and baking-type enamels for automobiles, ships, aircraft, furniture, food-can lacquers, and printing inks. Demand has risen rapidly in recent years. Prewar demand was 300 to 400 tons annually. Peacetime needs are expected to reach 800 to 1,000 tons of phthalic anhydride per year, a quantity sufficient to manufacture 1,200 to 1,500 tons of unmodified glyceryl phthalic resins. Maleic anhydride resins, manufactured by several companies, are used for somewhat similar purposes as phthalic resins but in much smaller quantities, total consumption amounting to less than 50 tons annually.

In the thermoplastic field, cellulose acetate is the most widely used type, all of which is imported at present, although the largest commercial producer of ethyl alcohol in Australia is planning the manufacture of cellulose acetate. The company proposes to produce acetic anhydride which will be combined with cellulose to produce cellulose acetate flake; this will be further compounded with other materials to produce molding powders. Chemical cotton will provide the source of cellulose which is to be imported, and later supplemented by the use of domestic wood pulp.

Consumption of cellulose acetate plastic material amounts to about 90 tons per year. Peacetime demands for lighting fixtures, beadings, pastel-colored telephones and other applications are expected by Melbourne molders to raise requirements to about 600 tons annually.

Cellulose acetate butyrate is used in the manufacture of tooth-brush handles and combs at the rate of 60 tons per annum, whereas current consumption of ethyl cellulose in Australia is small, amounting to only 3 tons per year.

All requirements of cellulose nitrate other than sheet materials are now manufactured in Australia. Plant capacity is 500 tons per year; 250 to 300 tons will be needed to maintain maximum output of artificial leather and the remainder no doubt will be absorbed by the paint industry for furniture and vehicle enamels. Some thought has been given to the manufacture of sheet celluloid, but this project has been abandoned because high costs of extruding, cutting, and polishing equipment were not justified by the size and prospects of the Australian market. There is one large user of celluloid, and clear and colored material is imported from the United States and Great Britain.

Polystyrene is used in Australia for electrical insulation and as a component in a substitute for copper sheathing in ship's-bottom compounds. Total usage does not exceed 15 tons per annum. The only manufacturing facility is a pilot plant erected in New South Wales. The plant was designed to produce 500 pounds of polystyrene weekly, but facilities have been diverted to other uses.

Australian usage of acrylic resins is fairly small. Although not yet on a commercial scale, several prospective manufacturers have carried out considerable development work. However, difficulties have been encountered and the immediate prospects of successful production are not good, particularly in the case of sheet material.

Polythene (Polyethylene) is the trade name for a range of plastics materials manufactured by polymerizing ethylene gas. These were discovered and developed in the United Kingdom in 1939.

Polythene is used in Australia almost exclusively for insulation of high-frequency communication cable, and it is consumed at the rate of about 10 tons per year.

Although unlimited quantities of ethylene can be obtained from alcohol or coal gas, it is unlikely that the peacetime demand will be large enough to warrant the

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Cuba's Poultry and Eggs: Trade Shows Sharp Shifts

Cuba Is Again Becoming an Important Market for United States Eggs, Having Imported 620,445 Dozen During the First Nine Months of 1946. Imports of Hatching Eggs and Baby Chicks Are Being Increased To Meet Growing Demand

Prepared in the Foodstuffs Division, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce (Based on a Report by PAUL G. MINNEMAN, *Agricultural Attaché, U. S. Embassy, Habana)*

CUBA—at one time the leading importer of United States shell eggs, having taken 40 to 50 percent of all eggs exported from this country—returned to the market in 1945 after a lapse of more than a decade.

From 1921 to 1925 Cuba's annual imports of eggs in the shell averaged 12,678,000 dozen, valued at about $3,660,000. In 1927, however, the Cuban Government sharply increased its import duties on eggs, as well as on many other products, in order to encourage domestic production. In 1928 imports of eggs in the shell decreased to 5,800,000 dozen, and in the following year to less than half that amount—2,580,000 dozen. A further tariff boost in 1930 practically "tolled the bell" for imported eggs, and by 1932 only small quantities of hatching eggs were imported. From 1936 through 1944 imports in any one year did not exceed 500 dozen.

Imports Necessary

In 1945, however, Cuban production of poultry and eggs decreased as a result of the severe drought, and demand increased because of the scarcity of meat and other foods and a greater consumer purchasing power. Therefore, the Cuban Government waived import duties on specified quantities of eggs, and imports rose to 166,600 dozen, valued at about $56,900, with the United States supplying about 76 percent. In the January–September period of 1946, the United States exported 620,445 dozen eggs to Cuba.

Prior to World War II Cuba's imports of frozen eggs amounted to 21,600 pounds a year. Only small quantities of powdered eggs have been imported into Cuba. The maximum quantity during the past 20 years was 1,380 pounds in 1937.

Cuban imports of eggs in the shell in the years 1902–45 are shown in table 1.

TABLE 1.—*Cuban Imports of Eggs in the Shell, 1902–45*

Period	Quantity (1,000 dozen)	Value (1,000 dollars)	Percent of total from United States
Average:			
1902–05	1,095.0	220.0	(1)
1906–10	4,178.0	848.0	(1)
1911–15	5,945.0	1,192.0	(1)
1916–20	8,767.0	3,398.0	(1)
1921–25	12,678.0	3,660.0	99.9
1926–30	6,556.0	1,695.0	100.0
1931–35	12.0	2.0	100.0
1936–40	.2	.3	98.0
Annual:			
1941	.3	.7	100.0
1942	.5	.5	68.8
1943	.3	.4	58.3
1944	.4	.6	100.0
1945	166.6	56.9	76.0

[1] Data not available, but imports were almost entirely from the United States.

SOURCE: Official foreign-trade statistics.

Domestic Industry

Cuba's poultry industry, as such, began about 1930 when higher import duties sharply reduced imports and stimulated domestic production. The industry developed rapidly during the next 15 years and was able to supply domestic requirements of poultry and eggs until 1945 when adverse weather conditions and increased demand necessitated a resumption of imports. However, regardless of the fact that Cuban imports of eggs in the shell have been resumed, it is believed that the market for these products will be somewhat limited during the next few years. The volume of imports will depend upon what quantities are permitted through waiving of import duties by the Cuban Government in order to relieve the temporary scarcities. Cuban bakers and other consumers are not accustomed or equipped to handle frozen eggs or any appreciable volume of powdered eggs. Imports of hatching eggs and baby chicks are expected to increase in line with expanding commercial and farm production.

There are about 12,000,000 fowls in Cuba, of which possibly 10,500,000 are chickens; the remaining 1,500,000 are guineas, turkeys, and ducks. Of the 10,500,000 chickens, an estimated 4,500,000 are hens.

Poultry is an important source of food in Cuba. Rice cooked with chicken (arroz con polo) is Cuba's national dish.

About 90 percent of Cuba's poultry is on small farms, and little attention is paid to the flocks. Poultry houses are a rarity, and the chickens roost in the trees and are fed on table scraps and a little corn.

Typical Cuban farm flocks consist of Criollo stock crossed with Spanish Catalana and such American breeds as Rhode Island Red, New Hampshire Red, Leghorn, and Plymouth Rock. The net result is a hardy breed adapted to foraging, but with low egg production. Most Cuban chickens are lighter in weight than those in the United States and produce much smaller eggs.

Near Habana there are about a dozen relatively large, modern, poultry farms, most of which were started during the war years when prices for both eggs and meat rose rapidly above the prewar level and made commercial production feasible, even with the prevailing high prices for feed. An estimated 20,000 to 30,000 hens are on these farms. A few farms specialize in the production of 2-pound broilers; some, in the selling of breeding stock, eggs, and day-old chicks; and others, in the production of strictly fresh, fancy eggs for the Habana market. These poultry farms have incubators varying in capacity from 300 to 6,000 eggs each, and the chickens are raised by scientific methods, as indicated by the fact that they have a low mortality rate of not more than 10 percent up to 10 weeks of age. Most of these producers specialize in White Leghorns, Rhode Island Reds, and New Hampshire Reds.

Feed costs are high in Cuba. During the past 5 years, shelled corn has been

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New WORLD TRADE LEADS

Prepared in the Commercial Intelligence Division, Office of International Trade

Australian Here To Seek Varied Trade Contracts

The Hon. T. G. Murray, M. C. L., a member of the New South Wales Parliament, is in the United States on a threefold mission. He combines business for his own account with an interest in municipal public-utility equipment and housing equipment and a desire to explore the market possibilities in this country for certain Australian products.

Specifically, Mr. Murray, who has base-metal and gold-mining interests, seeks contacts with suppliers of deep diamond drilling machinery and equipment. In addition, he is interested in the processes and apparatus needed to make illuminating and fuel gas, in household heating equipment, and in builders' hardware.

From a long-range viewpoint, Mr. Murray is anxious to investigate the possibilities of exporting to this country Australian tallow and soap.

Mr. Murray will remain in the United States until the end of January, during which time he plans to visit San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Washington, and Los Angeles. Interested American businessmen are requested to write him % 527 Maywood Drive, San Mateo, Calif.

New Invention for Sale by Netherlands Firm

An invention described as a quick-change toolpost is offered for sale to interested American manufacturers by a Netherlands concern, Lindeteves Stokvis, N. V. The device has already been patented in the Netherlands (No. 53964), and patents have been applied for in other countries.

According to information received from the American Embassy at The Hague, this toolpost is said to have numerous advantages over similar apparatus. For instance:

Unskilled or untrained workers are able to perform complicated work when using it—even to tolerances of $\frac{1}{1000}$ inch.

Production can be increased and cost reduced.

Work can be performed with a greater degree of accuracy.

Time lost in "breaking a job" on batch work to handle a rush assignment is considerably reduced.

Inversible toolholders minimize vibration, thus lessening the risk of damage to carbide tools.

A multiple toolholder permits cutting with more than one tool at a time.

Complete details on this invention can be obtained from the New York office of Lindeteves Stokvis, N. V., which is located at 10 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y.

Englishman Offers Public-Relations Service

A service of possible interest to United States businessmen is offered by Thomas Cunningham Sutherland of Surrey, England.

Mr. Cunningham, who specializes in public relations, has advised the American Embassy in London that he would like to represent American firms which are planning to establish factories or offices in the United Kingdom.

Complete information regarding Mr. Cunningham's plan can be obtained by writing him direct at Golfwood, Station Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England.

Foreign Visitors

1. *Australia*—R. Alexander, 6 Grimwade Court, Caulfield, Melbourne, Victoria, is interested in purchasing *machinery* for making lace and ribbon. He also desires to obtain technical information on latest developments in manufacturing these goods. Scheduled to arrive December 25, via San Francisco, for a visit of 3 or 4 months. U. S. address: *c/o* 5508 Santa Monica Boulevard, Hollywood, Calif. Itinerary: San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

2. *Australia*—Harry Goodman, representing Goodchild Shoes, Pty. Ltd., 69 Cromwell Street, Collingwood, Victoria, is interested in buying *shoe and textile machinery and materials* and in making new connections for manufacturing shoes under license. He

Editor's Note

The firms and individuals listed herewith have recently expressed their interest in buying or selling in the United States, or in United States representations. *Most of these trade opportunities have been reported by American Foreign Service officers abroad, following requests by local firms for assistance in locating American trade contacts.* Additional information concerning each export or import opportunity, including a World Trade Directory Report, is available to qualified United States firms, and may be obtained upon inquiry from the Commercial Intelligence Division of the Department of Commerce, or through its field offices, for $1 each. *Interested United States firms should correspond directly with the firms listed concerning any projected business arrangements.*

While every effort is made to include only firms or individuals of good repute, the Department of Commerce cannot assume any responsibility for any transactions undertaken with these firms. The usual precautions should be taken in all cases, and all transactions are subject to prevailing export and import controls in this country and abroad. (*It is recognized that many of the items specified as export opportunities are in short supply or that full facilities for private trade may not have been reestablished in some of the areas from which inquiries have been received. However, many United States foreign traders are proceeding now with negotiations for business when conditions permit.*)

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Tools: 45.
Wood: 13.

also desires technical information on developments in shoe manufacture. Scheduled to arrive the first week in February, via New York City. Length of visit: 2 months. U. S. address: c/o Samuel's Shoe Co., St. Louis, Mo. Itinerary: St. Louis, New York City, Boston, and San Francisco.

3. *Belgium*—Janssen Noel, representing H. Schotte & Fils, Erembodeghem (near Alost), is interested in purchasing *weaving machinery*. Scheduled to arrive in February, via New York City, for a visit of 2 months. U. S. address: c/o Belgian Consulate General, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City and other cities as may be necessary.

4. *Brazil*—H. Machado, representing Bianchi, Rossi & Cia., Ltda., Av. Franklin Roosevelt 126, Rio de Janeiro, is interested in obtaining representations for various unspecified products. Scheduled to arrive the end of November, via New York City, for a visit of 2½ months. U. S. address: c/o Overseas Credit Corporation, 90 Broad Street, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Philadelphia, Reading (Pa.), and Chicago.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

5. *Brazil*—Vitorino Rutigliano, representing Industrial, Agricola e Comercial do Brasil, S. A., 140 Rua 15 de Novembro, Santos, is interested in purchasing *galvanized iron pipes and fittings, black and galvanized steel sheets, corrugated steel sheets, tin and terne plates, portland gray cement, caustic soda, soda ash, rosin, radios, household refrigerators, and other electrical appliances*. He is interested also in selling Brazilian products in general. Mr. Rutigliano is now in the United States for an indefinite period. U. S. address: c/o Brazilian Government Trade Bureau, 551 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

6. *Ecuador*—Virgilio Chiriboga y Chiriboga, representing Chiriboga Hermanos y Compañia, Pasaje Royal No. 6, Quito, is interested in *highway-maintenance and farm machinery*. Scheduled to arrive January 2, via New Orleans, for a visit of about 6 months. U. S. address: c/o Ecuadoran Consulate General, Carondelet Building, New Orleans, La. Itinerary: New Orleans, Boston, Columbus, and New York City.

7. *England*—Leonard Gluckstein, representing J. Lyons & Co., Ltd., Cadby Hall, Kensington, London, W. 14, is interested in demonstrating *frozen foodstuffs*. Scheduled to arrive early in February, via New York City, for a visit of 2 months. U. S. address: Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Fiftieth Street and Park Avenue, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City and other cities as may be necessary.

8. *India*—Chaudri Mohammad Latif, representing Batala Engineering Co., Ltd., Grand Trunk Road, Batala, Punjab, is interested in *steel-rolling mills, cast-iron foundry, and machine shop*. Scheduled to arrive in mid-January, via New York City, for a visit of 2 months. U. S. address: c/o Thomas Cook & Son, 587 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Providence, Buffalo, and South Bend.

9. *India*—Kantilal Hiralal Shah, representing Vassant Industrial and Engineering Works, Madras, is interested in contacting *textile-machinery* manufacturers, as well as makers of other *industrial machinery*. Scheduled to arrive the end of November for a visit of 3 months. U. S. address: c/o Mrs. K. H. Shah, Gosnold, Vineyard Haven, Mass. Itinerary: New York City and other cities as may be necessary.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

10. *New Zealand*—Jim Land, representing J. S. Land, Ltd., 112 Wakefield Street, Wellington, is interested in visiting *leather-goods* industries. Scheduled to arrive January 21, via Norfolk, Va., for a visit of 6 weeks. U. S. address: c/o New Zealand Legation, 19 Observatory Circle NW., Washington, D. C. Itinerary: Washington, D. C., New York, Chicago, and San Francisco.

11. *Norway*—Albert Barstad, representing Stavanger Bliktrykkeri og Maskinvaerksted A. S., Stavanger, is interested in *equipment for establishing a plastic industry* in Norway. Scheduled to arrive February 15, via New York City, for a visit of 2 months. U. S. address: c/o Norwegian Consulate General, 115 Broad Streeet, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Milwaukee, and Chicago.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

12. *Norway*—Eystein Christensen, representing Markt & Co., A. S., Kirkegaten 15, Oslo, is interested in *hardware, iron ware, and kitchen wares*. Scheduled to arrive January 12, via New York City, for a visit of about 2 months. U. S. address: c/o Markt & Hammacher Co., 53 Park Place, New York 7, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Chicago, Duluth, Toledo, Milwaukee, Columbus, and New Haven.

13. *Norway*—Herman Løvenskiold, representing Løvenskiold-Fossum, Fossum, Skien, is interested in studying *plastic and wood-refining industries* in the United States. Scheduled to arrive February 14, via New York City, for an indefinite period. U. S. address c/o Norwegian Consulate General, 115 Broad Street, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Washington, D. C., Boston, and Chicago.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

14. *Norway*—Paul Martens, representing Ditlef Martens A. S., Rosenkrantzgaten 3, Bergen, is interested in purchasing *machinery* for the manufacture of crackers, biscuits, and similar products. Scheduled to arrive January 31, via New York City, for a visit of 6 months. U. S. address: c/o Baker Perkins, Inc., Fraser & Young Streets, Saginaw, Mich. Itinerary: New York City, Washington, D. C., Chicago, and Saginaw.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

15. *Union of South Africa*—Isaac Buirski, representing Mercury Postage Franking Co., Ltd., 148 St. George's Street, Capetown, is interested in *postage-franking machinery*. Scheduled to arrive January 30, for an indefinite period. U. S. address: c/o Goss & Johnson, 71 Murray Street, New York, N. Y.

16. *Union of South Africa*—Alexander Gardner, representing Bagshaw, Gibaud & Co., Ltd., Paterson Road, Port Elizabeth, is interested in *leather and all products connected with the footwear and tanning industries, including machinery*. Scheduled to arrive in February, via Miami, for a visit of 2 months. U. S. address: c/o White & Hodges, Everett, Mass. Itinerary: New York City, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, and other cities as may be necessary.

Import Opportunities

17. *Egypt*—S. A. E. De Chaussures Bata, P. O. Box 1923, Cairo, have available for export hand-made woolen *carpets, rugs,* and *kilims*. The following specifications are furnished for the rugs and carpets: High-pile quality of wool. Average about 9 knots per square centimeter (3 x 3). Finer qualities also can be made, such as 4 x 4, 5 x 5 knots, against special order. Genuine fast colors. Patterns include typical Egyptian designs, and oriental and modern styles; however, any particular pattern can be made upon request. Approximate weight of carpets is about 3½ to 4 kilograms per square meter. The kilims are available in rug-Kelley and carpet sizes. They are of resistant quality and weigh between 2 and 2¾ kilograms per square meter.

18. *England*—Janet Moore, 42 High Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, offer for sale *beauty preparations*. The following are types and prices: Herbal skin food at 48 shillings per dozen; kenna, a hand lotion, at 24 shillings per dozen; Moghra wrinkle oil at 44 shillings per dozen; lashade, an eyelash preparation, at 16 shillings per dozen; and kamalash, an eyelash-darkening cream, at 16 shillings per dozen.

19. *Italy*—Adams & Co., Ltd., 32 Via Romana, Florence, offer for export hand-made embroidered works such as *tablecloths, lingerie,* and *tea sets; glass* and *glassware; leather goods* for writing sets and wallets.

20. *Italy*—Cav. Oreste Talini, Lamporecchio, Pistoia Province, have available for export ornamental *dried grasses* for florists; bleached and natural *ruscus, bleached wheat, bleached* and *natural ornamental herbage;* ornamental *pine cones; holly* and *ruscus wreaths*.

21. *Italy*—Luigi Lang, 38 Via Roma, Leghorn, have available for export the following commodity, *Italian quicksilver*.

22. *Italy*—Ditta Carlo Mazzanti, 21 Via Vallescuri, Bologna, has available for export *heavy* and *lightweight feathers* for use in pillows and comforters.

23. *Mexico*—Cabrera Hermanos, 1701 Calle 33, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, offer sale quotations on *furs* from the following animals: *fox, wildcat, coyote,* and *cacomistle*.

Export Opportunities

24. *Belgium*—Établissements J. Schuybroek, S. A., 356 Lage Weg, Hoboken, Antwerp, request purchase quotations on electrolytic *zinc strips* suitable for drop-stamping to a depth of 0.3 millimeters; 99 percent *aluminum strips*, width 162 millimeters and 117 millimeters, length as convenient; 99 percent aluminum sheets 1,700 by 400 millimeters. Strips 162 millimeters; 32,800 meters; strips 117 millimeters; 28,500 meters; sheets, 2,500 (in repeat orders) and suitable for drop stamping to a depth of 0.25 to 0.30 millimeters.

25. *Brazil*—Importadora Pavan, Ltda., Rua Alvares Penteado 180, Sao Paulo, request purchase quotations on *light motor trucks,* and *tractors*.

26. *England*—North British Metal Ware Manufacturers, Ltd., Grove House, 73 Grove Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, request purchase quotations on *ball bearings* of the following specifications: 100 off Medium Type Self Lining Double Row Ball Journal 1" x 2½" x ¾" British Standard Specification Type BAM; 100 off Medium Type self-lining single row ball journal 1⅜" x 3½" x ⅞" B. S. B. Type BRM; 100 off Medium Type self-lining double row ball journal 30 mm i/d x 72 mm o/d x 19 mm, B. S. S. BAM .030; 100 off Medium Type self-lining double row ball journal 35 mm i/d x 80 mm o/d x 21 mm, B. S. S. BAM .035.

27. *England*—Roy Tallent, Ltd., 70–74 City Road, London, E. C. 1., request purchase quotations on *reverse-cycle heating equipment*.

28. *France*—Electri-Culinor, Cl. Boiron, 19 rue Gentil, Lyon, request purchase quotations on *electrical household appliances* in the following quantities: Refrigerators 200, laundry washing machines 200, electric stoves 100, dishwashing machines 200, food mixers 500.

29. *France*—Laboratoires Alma, 104 rue Tete d'or, Lyon, Rhone, request purchase quotations on the following *pharmaceutical*

(Continued on p. 32)

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News by COUNTRIES

Prepared in Areas Branch, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce

Australia

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Import Controls on Certain Products from Nonsterling Countries.—During the first week of November 1946 the Customs and Excise Office for the Commonwealth of Australia issued amendments to the prevailing import licensing regulations relaxing the import restrictions on the following items: Soap chips; cotton and linen handkerchiefs; olives in vessels exceeding 1 gallon; retarding powder; metronomes; hemp fibers, namely, sisal, *Phormium tenax*, maguey, and sumatra; piston rings, piston pins, and valves for other internal-combustion engines (marine and stationary combustion engines were covered by previous instructions).

The above-mentioned commodities are now under "administrative control," and the applications for import licenses are dealt with individually on their merits by the appropriate Australian customs authorities.

Formerly, these products from nonsterling areas were identified in the schedule of categories of the Australian customs import licensing regulations by the notation "N. L.," indicating that no licenses were being granted for imports of such goods from all non-Empire countries including the United States and from Canada, Newfoundland, and Hong Kong.

Belgium

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Changes in Excise and Consumption Taxes and Import Duties.—A Belgian decree-law effective November 15, 1946, published in the Moniteur Belge of the same date, made certain changes in excise taxes, consumption taxes, and import duties on alcoholic beverages, sugar, fuel oils, cigarette lighters, and the like, according to an airgram of November 18 from the U. S. Embassy at Brussels.

The excise tax on cigarette lighters was increased from 15 to 25 francs per lighter, and on mineral waters from 72 to 80 centimes per liter. A new excise tax of 3,500 francs per hectoliter was added to alcoholic beverages at 50° Gay-Lussac.

The consumption tax on alcohols and alcoholic beverages at 50° Gay-Lussac was advanced from 2,500 to 4,000 francs per hectoliter, except on alcohols destined for the manufacture of perfume on which the tax was reduced from 2,500 to 1,500 francs.

The import duty on fuel oils formerly assessed at 20 francs per 100 kilograms was suspended, and that on sugars, sirups, and artificial honey was reduced from 100 to 60 francs per 100 kilos.

Increases were made in the import duties on the following products: Fruits conserved in liquor, from 569 to 1,200 francs per 100 kilograms; on lemonade containing alcohol up to 10° Gay-Lussac, from 380 to 800 francs per hectoliter; lemonade containing alcohol over 10° and up to 15° Gay-Lussac, from 569 to 1,200 francs per hectoliter; whiskies, brandies, cognacs, and the like, in containers not over 1.5 liters, from 3,300 to 8,000 francs per hectoliter, those in containers over 1.5 liters, 40° Gay-Lussac or less, from 1,320 to 3,200 francs, and those over 40°, from 33 to 80 francs for each degree; and liqueurs of any alcoholic strength, from 3,300 to 8,000 francs per hectoliter.

The Cover Picture

Science Creates a Brain

Being created in Britain is an artificial "brain" (work on which is here shown) which will surpass in many ways the capabilities of the human mind, and (it is said) "its implications are so vast that we cannot conceive how it will affect our civilization." Named the "Ace," it is capable of solving in a split second mathematical problems which would take the keenest human intelligence many weeks; possessing a certain amount of memory and the use of judgment and choice, it is to cost $400,000, use 18,000 valves, and 5,000 switches. Included in the team working on it is Prof. D. Hartree, of Cambridge University, who was one of the creators of the famous American "Eniac" machine. Our picture which illustrates this engrossing project was furnished by the British Information Services.

Brazil

Tariffs and Trade Controls

"Chumbino" Beans Withdrawn from Export Prohibition; Made Subject to Export License.—"Chumbino" beans have been withdrawn from the Brazilian export prohibition and made subject to prior export license from the Export-Import Department of the Bank of Brazil, by order No. 680, issued by the Brazilian Minister of Finance.

The official reason for lifting the export prohibition on these beans is that there is little demand for them on the domestic market.

Canada

Economic Conditions

INDUSTRY RECONVERSION PROGRESSING

Industrial production has become more nearly normal in Canada, as a result of the settlement of all the major labor disputes in recent weeks and an upward revision of the controlled retail prices. Virtually full employment has been realized and record railroad freight carloadings have continued.

Although the succession of shipping and coal strikes in Canada accentuated the conviction that future business regressions must be accepted as inevitable, the reconversion from a wartime to a peacetime basis was considered to be three-fourths completed by a Canadian official. The Government's policy of gradual decontrol was restated in a series of public addresses during November by the Chairman of the Wartime Prices and

Trade Board and other Government leaders. These talks, besides stimulating public interest and discussion on the retention of price controls into 1947, seemed to be intended to justify the Government's policy until the general industrial reconversion is completed and a normal domestic production permits a gradual return to a free economy. A long step in this direction was taken by the Government as a result of its recent elimination of wage and salary controls.

Cost of Living Rises

The cost-of-living index resumed in October the upward climb which had been arrested in September, advancing 1.3 points to 126.8, and reached a new high of 127.1 on November 1. The November 1 index was 7.2 more than 119.9 on November 1, 1945. The price increases were widely scattered with five of the six budget group indexes recording gains.

Trade Above Prewar Levels

Canada's export trade for the first 10 months of 1946, totaling $3,436,906,322, more than doubled the 1935–39 ten-month average. The export aggregate for the first 10 months of 1946 stood at $1,868,100,000 compared with $2,744,900,000 in the corresponding period of 1945, marked by a decrease from $1,006,900,000 to $714,900,000 in exports to the United States and from $844,500,000 to $480,300,000 in those to the United Kingdom. The exports to the United States in October, valued at $99,085,507, included $13,477,060 worth of wheat sent via Buffalo and Baltimore to Europe, notably to the United Kingdom. Exports of wheat, barley, fish, nickel, zinc, newsprint, pulpwood and wood pulp advanced in October, whereas the other minerals and steel manufactures generally fell off. China was the third largest purchaser of Canadian goods in October.

Imports into Canada totaled $186,292,750 during October, compared with $156,096,013 in September—about three times the prewar average—largely owing to a sharp rise in imports from the United States and the United Kingdom. With the gradual return to a peacetime economy, the imports of capital goods and industrial products materially increased from 1945, and the greatest gains were in the consumer commodities, such as passenger automobiles, which were four times the 1945 level, and household and personal equipment, which more than doubled. Canada's export balance for the first 10 months of 1946 declined to $342,500,740 from $1,724,200,415 and $1,681,649,146 in the first 10 months of 1944 and 1945, respectively. The 1946 export balance, however, was considerably more than the 10-month average of $212,472,932 for the years 1935–39.

Netherlands Entertainment Receipts at Record Height

The Dutch people, at least those in the three largest cities, "seem to have grown tired of having to live up to their reputation of being one of the thriftiest nations in the world," says a recent statement by the official governmental Netherlands Information Bureau. Disregarding the warnings of their Minister of Finance that national thrift is now more imperative than ever before, the inhabitants of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and The Hague are queuing up in front of theaters, movies, and sport events in ever larger numbers.

While in 1939 they were satisfied with spending 15,000,000 guilders, they needed in 1945 no less than 36,000,000 to satisfy their desire for entertainment, while the total admissions paid in 1946 are estimated to have amounted to some 44,000,000 guilders, exclusive of admission tickets on which no Government tax is levied.

Dominion-Provincial Tax Agreements

Increasing attention has been devoted to the series of financial negotiations leading to tax agreements between the Federal Government and several of the Provinces granting the former the authority to collect inheritance, income, corporation, and amusement taxes. Following the deadlock of two sessions of the Dominion-Provincial Conference in Ottawa during the past year the Federal Government has been successful in negotiating individual agreements with all the Provinces except Ontario and Quebec.

Agricultural Situation

Good agricultural crops were harvested during 1946, but the wheat crop fell 22,000,000 bushels below preliminary estimates. However, the final figure, (418,600,000 bushels) was a very good return and far above average. The annual production of oats was estimated at 399,500,000 bushels; barley, 159,900,000; rye, 6,900,000; and flaxseed, 7,700,000 bushels, materially larger than the crops in 1945. The shortage of railway freight cars retarded wheat shipments from the western Provinces.

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Draw-back Regulations Revised.—Draw-back is no longer payable in Canada on goods which are returned to the country from whence imported, according to revised draw-back regulations issued by the Canadian Department of National Revenue on November 1, 1946, retroactive to September 1, 1946. This restriction was in effect before the war and was continued in the war measures regulations of July 22, 1941, but was omitted from the revised war measures regulation of April 8, 1942, because of war conditions. Many war materials and supplies had been shipped to Canada, and afterwards when it was found that Canada had abundant supplies of such materials which were needed in the United States the regulations were amended so that draw-back could be paid upon their return. The 99-percent payment of draw-back on goods imported into Canada and then exported to a third country is still in effect.

The nonpayment of draw-back on goods returned to the country from whence imported is intended to prevent certain trade practices. For example, it would prevent a Canadian dealer from returning for credit, goods which he may have had on his shelves for some time and had found unsalable.

This proviso for nonpayment of draw-back in the case of goods returned to the country of import is included in the "instructions" rather than in the body of the regulations, and, should conditions arise which might make it advisable to pay draw-back on goods returned to the country whence imported, only a change of instructions would be necessary, rather than a new order in council.

Denmark

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Documentary Requirements for Air Express Shipments.—Documentary requirements on air express shipments from the United States to Denmark are in general similar to those on other shipments, according to information received from the American Legation, Copenhagen.

All air express shipments require commercial invoices in duplicate, and invoices covering goods dutiable at ad valorem rates must be signed by the seller and must show discounts and the date of order. Sanitary certificates are required for plants, animals, and animal products, and detailed information thereon should be supplied by the purchaser in Denmark. Certificates of origin are required only for wines and

spirits. Consular invoices are not required, and consular legalization is not needed on the above-mentioned documents.

It is essential that exporters obtain assurances from the importer, prior to shipment, that the latter has obtained the necessary import (and exchange) license. The air bill of lading should indicate whether transshipment is involved, but this requires no special documentation.

Articles contained in gift packages are dutiable at regular tariff rates, but such packages are exempt from import license requirements if the value does not exceed 500 crowns (about $105). The air bill of lading should be marked to indicate that the package is a gift. Samples are dutiable, as a rule, but those having no commercial value (with the exception of wines, spirits, and tobacco) are admitted duty-free.

Supplementary Goods-Exchange Agreement with Finland Signed.—A supplementary agreement for the exchange of merchandise between Denmark and Finland was signed at Helsinki on November 16, 1946, according to a report from the American Commercial Attaché, Copenhagen. This supplement extends the validity of the current agreement concerning trade between the two countries (See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of August 3, 1946) to include the period January 1 to March 31, 1947, and provides for additional Danish exports to Finland of a value of about 57,000,000 Danish crowns, with Finish counter deliveries valued at about 47,000,000 crowns.

Meat, butter, fish, sugar, blood albumen, seeds, and metal manufactures are the principal Danish exports concerned, and lumber, chemical pulp, newsprint, other paper, and paper products are the principal Finnish exports.

The Finnish press states that Danish deliveries will include 5,000 metric tons of sugar, 4,000 tons of fish, 500 tons of beef, 500 tons of pork, 2,500 tons of butter, 600 tons of molasses, 1,000,000 crowns' worth of plum preserves, and 200,000 crowns' worth of malt extract.

Agreement Concerning Trade and Payments Concluded with Government of French Zone in Germany.—A trade and payments agreement between Denmark and the military government of the French zone in Germany, valid for the fourth quarter of 1946, was signed on November 5.

This agreement provided for the exchange of merchandise to a value of 10,000,000 Danish crowns in each direction. Danish exports were to consist principally of draft horses, bulls, fish, seed potatoes, seeds and insulin; Danish imports from the French zone were to include machinery and apparatus (particularly agricultural), steel, fittings, surgical instruments, alarm clocks, hops, and sanitary earthenware.

Finland

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Two-Year Goods-Exchange Agreement Signed With U. S. S. R.—An agreement between Finland and the U. S. S. R., which is intended to regulate the "commercial" exchange of goods for 2 years and which establishes a schedule of commodities intended to constitute a volume of trade during the year 1947, to a value of $25,000,000, was signed in Moscow on December 5, 1946, according to a report from the American Legation, Helsinki.

The Finnish exports concerned include sawn lumber, prefabricated houses (8,000 units), chemical pulp, and products of the paper industry. The U. S. S. R. exports are to include foodstuffs, fertilizers, iron, steel, other metals, fuel, industrial chemicals, and lubricating oils.

Details of the pricing policy and the system of payments clearing to be used have not been announced.

Finnish Captain Invents Artificial Arm

A Finnish war invalid has invented an artificial arm which reportedly allows an amputee to perform virtually any task. In his description of the device, the veteran mentions, for example, nailing, carrying and using a camera, drilling in wood or iron, transporting milk cans weighing 60 liters on a light wheelbarrow, turning turf with a spade, cutting with a scythe, and digging potatoes. A great variety of additional operations have already been performed by the inventor, and it is intimated that the applications of the invention are limited only by the ingenuity of the user.

The veteran has announced his intention to arrange for production in Finland by workshops manned by those disabled in the war and suggests that a similar arrangement might be made in the United States. He offers to put his invention at the disposal of the war-disabled of all nations free of charge. Finnish patent has been applied for.

Detailed description of the device and illustrations depicting a few of its many uses may be seen in the General Products Division of the Department of Commerce, Room 3818, Washington, D. C.

France

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Regulations Governing the Fixing of Prices of Imports From Germany.—The following notice to importers was published in the French Journal Officiel of November 13, 1946:

I. *Establishment of order specification slips in relation to prices.*—The specification slips to be established in order to obtain an importation of goods from Germany provide a column in which should be mentioned the provisional price in francs at which the importer agrees to pay for the imported merchandise (price, free at French frontier, before customs). All evaluations of prices in marks or in dollars are excluded.

This price should be established: (*a*) By alinement with the fixed sale price in France of similar French products or materials (price without tax) or by alinement with the free-frontier price before customs of similar products or materials imported from countries other than Germany; (*b*) Lacking these terms of comparison, on the basis of the price of the same merchandise imported from Germany in 1939 (price of the merchandise delivered at the frontier increased by the customs duties) multiplied by the coefficient of increase authorized by French legislation since 1939 for the same category of products.

The importer is obliged to present, in support of his specification order slip, appropriate proofs (decisions, regulations, price scales, invoice, or other document) under penalty of having his application filed without action.

The price indicated by the importer serves as the basis for discussions with the occupation authorities of the different zones of Germany.

The French Commercial Mission in Germany (M. C. F. A.) informs the importer if his provisional price is accepted or, on the other hand, makes known to the importer the counterproposition of the occupation authorities. The importer then informs the M. C. F. A. of his acceptance or refusal.

The provisions of article 4 of order No. 14216, published in the Official Bulletin of Price Services of April 9, 1946, being applicable to products imported from Germany, the sale price in France of products of this origin should not, unless exemption has been accorded in virtue of article 5 of this text, be higher than the lawful price in force on the internal market for similar products.

II. *Execution of importations.*—Importations are made through the intermediary of an import and export service, which delivers the merchandise to the receiving parties and assures the billing of it. The delivery by the export and import service being effected free-French frontier, before customs, the duties and taxes assessed by the customs administration are at the expense of the importer who has the obligation of the formalities of customs clearance.

The indication of the customs bureau of importation should be placed by the importer on the specification slip (this indication does not bind the M. C. F. A.).

This procedure is applicable from the date of its publication in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic (November 13, 1946).

French North Africa

Exchange and Finance

Tunisian Paper Currency: Small Denominations To Become Invalid.—Beginning January 1, 1947, the 2-franc, 1-franc, and 0.50-franc paper notes, issued by the Bangue d'Algerie (which issues all currency for Tunisia) are no longer legal currency in Tunisia, according to an airgram from the American Consulate General at Tunis.

These bills could have been used up to December 31, 1946, and can be exchanged by the banks until February 28, 1947.

Greece

Tariffs and Trade Controls

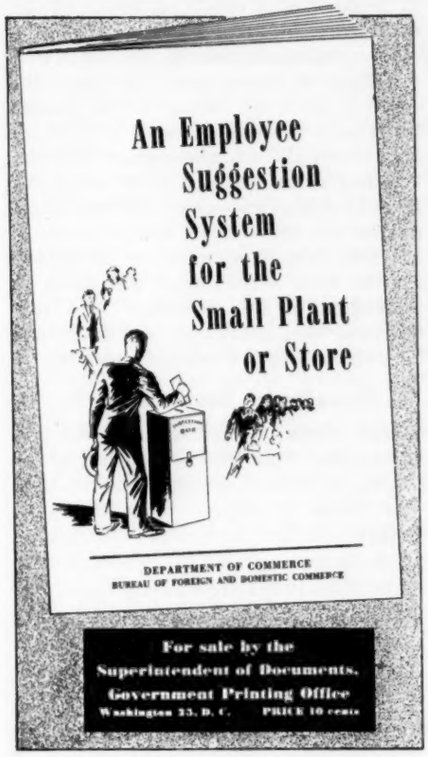
Import Permits Required for Customs Clearance.—Effective December 27, 1946, the Greek authorities ruled that, in order to obtain clearance of imported merchandise through the customs, it is necessary for Greek importers to present import permits for all products, including those for which import permits were temporarily waived (see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of April 13, 1946), according to a report dated December 25, 1946, from the American Embassy at Athens. This ruling has been attributed to the need for revising current import regulations with a view to coordinating the issuance of import permits with the supply of foreign exchange. For this purpose, a special committee has been set up which will pass upon all import permits which are issued by the Ministry of National Economy.

Pending the formulation of new import regulations, settlement for goods now arriving in Greece which were ordered prior to the present ruling and are payable against sight draft will be in the form of a deposit in drachmas in a local bank in the name of the foreign exporter, which will remain blocked until the transfer of foreign exchange is authorized.

Hong Kong

Economic Conditions

Commercial activity in Hong Kong has continued at a high level, and although much remains to be done toward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alleviation of shortages which have hampered the industrial recovery of the colony, the foreign trade of this important entrepôt during the first 9 months of 1946 compared favorably with the corresponding period of 1939.

During September 1946, bank clearings continued to increase, two Chinese branch banks were opened in the colony, the position in respect to exporters' credits was clarified, and the budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1947, was passed by the Legislative Council. Prices of agricultural commodities for export, with the exception of wood oil, tended to decline slightly as a result of steadily forthcoming supplies from China, although the index of wholesale prices, issued for the first time since the reoccupation of the colony by the British, showed that, in general, prices during the first half of 1946 were three and one-half times higher than in the corresponding period of 1941.

Shortages of consumers' goods, particularly textiles, continued to prevent department stores from participating as fully as other types of businesses in the commercial activity. With the exception of local dockyards, domestic industries were still hampered by shortages of supplies, and this condition was expected to continued until early in 1947.

Shipping continued to be tight throughout September and pilferage increased, although it had not reached proportions considered to be serious. A site for the new airport located slightly north of Ping Shan was approved. Daily trips had been resumed between Kowloon and Canton, by fast trains.

UNITED STATES POSITION IN HONG KONG'S TRADE

Although China has figured most prominently in Hong Kong's trade, the United States supplied 13.2 percent of total imports during the first 9 months of 1946, and accounted for 9.4 percent of the value of all exports from the colony. During September declared exports to the United States amounted to US$2,133,339. Two items—wood oil and firecrackers — comprised slightly more than 30 percent of the total. Principal items of export to the United States during September are shown in the accompanying table.

Hong Kong Declared Exports to the United States, September 1946

Item	Weight (pounds)	Value	Percentage of total value
Wood oil	1,919,067	US$688,445	32.2
Firecrackers	144,660	361,613	16.9
Cassia	882,443	172,253	8.0
Linen handkerchiefs	5,861	120,111	5.6
Duck and goose feathers	220,378	140,271	6.5
Silk waste	145,299	95,124	4.5
Chinese medicines	38,358	65,697	3.1
Vegetables for Chinese foods	121,328	52,062	2.4
Aniseed oil	32,340	40,646	2.0
Other	----------	397,117	18.8
Total	3,509,734	2,133,339	100.0

Principal imports into Hong Kong by commodity groups during September were piece goods and textiles, foodstuffs and provisions, wearing apparel, and oils and fats. Total imports during the month amounted to US$27,691,235 and the United States supplied commodities amounting to 6.2 percent of the total or US$4,438,277.

TRADE CONTROLS

The list of items requiring license for export has been revised. According to telegraphic information received from the American Consulate General, Hong Kong, in early December, the list comprised: Bottles, whole or broken; beer bottles not containing beer; cotton, woolen, and worsted yarns; bread; butter; coconut oil; flour; condensed milk; noodles; peanut oil; rice; sugar; Government [sic] biscuits; sheet glass; motor vehicles, parts, and accessories; rubber, pale crepe and smoked sheets; timber including firewood; tin plate; textiles and knitted goods, including made-up goods; baths and water closets galvanized pipes; mild steel, rods, bars, angles, joists, tees, and window sections. The above list supersedes lists previously reported.

Banking Facilities Increased

The Chinese Postal Remittance and Savings Bank opened a branch in Hong Kong on October 1, 1946, while the Tsen Ho Provincial Bank was scheduled to open a branch later that month. Although September bank clearings increased 10 percent over those for August, this was the smallest increase reported since the reoccupation of the colony, and it appeared that this might have been due either to seasonal factors or to a gradual leveling off of activity.

Indications of the tightening of the foreign-exchange position were apparent during September in the restriction placed on the use of exporter's credits. (See Foreign Commerce Weekly, December 21, 1946, Hong Kong, Exchange and Finance.) The unofficial exchange rate continued high during the month, and at one time reached HK$4.95 to US$1 as a result of a demand for United States dollars to pay for imports of gold from Mexico. The Hong Kong Government permitted the importation of gold with the stipulation that none of it was to be exported, a condition which no one expected to be fully observed.

It was announced on September 20 that the Chinese Government, through the Central Bank of China, would extend loans at 3 percent annually to Chinese merchants and Chinese-owned factories in Hong Kong—as well as to other Far Eastern countries—which suffered losses during the war. Hong Kong's share of the loan was reportedly set at HK$4,000,000 with a maximum allocation of HK$4,000 for an individual who furnished a "shop guaranty," and HK$40,000 for factories with acceptable security.

Hong Kong's Budget Approved

Hong Kong's budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1947, was passed by the Legislative Council on September 20, 1946, with total estimated expenditures of HK$161,871,976. As receipts were apparently estimated at HK$51,308,300, a deficit of HK$110,563,676 was envisaged. As finally passed, expenditures were more than twice as high as in earlier estimates because the heavy expenditures for rehabilitation had not previously been included. (For previous budget estimates see Foreign Commerce Weekly, September 21, 1946, Hong Kong, Economic Conditions.)

In an effort to improve the colony's financial position and port administration, two committees were appointed on September 14 to study the situation and make recommendations to the Government. The Taxation Committee was to consider new sources of revenue, methods of increasing rates of existing taxation, and the possibility of replacing the War Revenue Tax with an income tax. Some form of sales tax was reported under consideration.

Appointment of the Port Committee to investigate the system of port administration and to recommend improvements if needed, has raised again the question of establishing a Port Trust composed of businessmen and Government officials which, it has been claimed, could administer the port more efficiently than has been the case in the past.

Wholesale Price Index

Price indexes published in September for the first time since the reoccupation of Hong Kong indicate that during the first half of 1946 the general level of prices was about three and one-half times higher than for the corresponding period of 1941. During August, prices of most commodities declined. Textiles, however, showed marked increases, but a decline was expected with the arrival of new shipments of cotton and woolen goods. A summary of wholesale price indexes for August 1946 and a comparison between the first 6 months of 1946 and the corresponding period of two prewar years is provided in the accompanying table.

Wholesale Price Indexes

[1938–100]

Commodity class	First half			August
	1939	1941	1946	1946
Foodstuffs	96.8	155.4	768.6	707.3
Textiles	91.2	138.3	818.8	962.6
Metals and minerals	100.0	160.2	308.2	234.5
Miscellaneous	100.0	168.9	718.9	478.6

With the exception of wood oil, prices of agricultural products for export tended to decline owing to continued steady arrivals from China. The devaluation of the Chinese dollar caused foodstuffs and vegetables imported from Kwangtung to drop in price, but this decrease was not equal proportionately to the devaluation of the Chinese currency. Rice from the New Territories and Kwangtung decreased in price during the last part of September from HK$130 per picul (133⅓ pounds) to HK$100–

United States-India Air Agreement

The Department of State of the United States of America and the External Affairs Department of the Government of India have announced the conclusion of a bilateral air-transport agreement between the United States and India which was signed in New Delhi on November 14, 1946. This is the first formal agreement which the United States has concluded with the new Government of India.

The agreement consists of 13 articles and an annex, and defines conditions under which scheduled air services of each country are to be operated between the United States and India. The agreement is a development of the "Bermuda" type of air-transport arrangement which, since it was concluded between the United States and the United Kingdom in February 1946, has formed a pattern for a number of other bilateral arrangements. The United States-Indian agreement conforms with the principles embodied in the Bermuda agreement, but secures to each party a greater measure of control over the application of those principles and the air services to be operated.

Provision is made for the categories of traffic which may be carried, use of airports, control of rates for carriage of traffic between the territory of the two countries, "change of gage," customs duties, and exchange of information and statistics. The agreement also makes provision for appropriate use of the machinery of the Provisional International Civil Aviation Organization, and of the International Air Transport Association, in their respective spheres.

The annex describes specific routes to be operated by air lines of the United States, and gives Indian air lines reciprocal rights to operate routes to the United States, to be determined at a later date. Air lines of the United States are accorded the right to fly via the following routes and to make traffic stops in India at the places named:

Route 1 (to be operated by Pan American World Airways): The United States through Central Europe and the Near East to Karachi, Delhi, and Calcutta, thence to a point in Burma, a point in Siam, a point in Indochina, and beyond to the United States.

Route 2 (to be operated by Trans World Airline): The United States through Western Europe, North Africa, and the Near East to Bombay and beyond Bombay to: (A) Calcutta, a point in Burma, a point in Indochina, points in China and Japan, and beyond to the United States over Pacific routes; (B) Ceylon, Singapore, and beyond.

The foregoing routes may be operated in both directions. Until quarantine facilities are available in Bombay, TWA flights from the west will temporarily enter India at Karachi and will proceed from there to Bombay.

An exchange of notes between representatives of the two Governments at the time the agreement was concluded sets out a collateral understanding concerning principles and arrangements with respect to rates to be charged by air lines for "Fifth Freedom" traffic to and from territory of the other party.

In announcing conclusion of the bilateral air-transport agreement, the two Governments expressed their conviction that the mutual arrangements which it embodied will afford a practical means of implementing and strengthening the friendly relations already existing between them.

HK$110 per picul, because of reports that several Provinces of China had had a satisfactory harvest.

INDUSTRY LAGS

Industry in the colony has been at a virtual standstill, with the exception of dockyards which have been operating under the Royal Navy at 90-percent capacity for the purpose of repairing and overhauling vessels only. A large part of the textile industry has been closed down as a result of the prohibition of the exportation of cotton textiles from Hong Kong, effective September 14, 1946. This ban had been placed on exports of cotton goods at the insistance of the Chinese Government which contended that inasmuch as Hong Kong had received no allocation of cotton yarn, cotton textiles manufactured in the colony were probably made from yarn smuggled from China in violation of Chinese export prohibition. Production will presumably he resumed when the colony has received an allocation of yarn.

Shortages of raw tobacco, high labor costs, and competition from various foreign brands have caused the local cigarette industry not to resume production at full prewar capacity. It has been reported that American cigarettes may shortly be placed under a quota, to promote the sale of British cigarettes and also to give protection to the products of the British American Tobacco Co. The colony's rubber industry—working predominantly on rubber-soled shoes—has been operating at about 20-percent capacity owing to shortages of rubber and canvas.

The Taikoo Sugar Refinery, which was damaged by air raids during the war, was still out of operation at the end of September 1946. The need for tin plate caused the food-canning industry, which employed approximately 2,700 workers in 1940, to employ less than 200 people in September. It was estimated officially that the colony's need for tin plate during the last half of 1946 was about 1,050 long tons, for the 4-month canning season scheduled to start in late November or early December.

Norway Schools "Adopt" 100 Merchant Ships

A new and thrilling form of geography instruction has recently made its appearance in more than 100 Norwegian grade schools, says the Royal Norwegian Information Service. Under what is known as the "ship adoption plan" pupils exchange letters with officers and crew aboard an "adopted" Norwegian vessel, enjoy first-hand descriptions of strange spots on the globe, and assemble collections of fascinating foreign stamps. Officers and crew members, on the other hand, are enthusiastic over the letters received from their young friends at home, and new and constructive ties are reportedly being established between the homeland and "Norway abroad."

In addition to writing letters about the lands they visit, seamen have taken photographs, drawn pictures, and sent maps with the course of their ship marked in, showing its progress from port to port.

Typical of the enthusiasm with which the plan has been received in Norwegian circles, is a letter from the head of an Oslo shipping firm commenting on its importance in making the populace more "shipping-minded." A special committee composed of members of the shipping industry and the Norwegian Teachers Association has been set up under the chairmanship of shipowner Knut Utstein Kloster and is receiving active support from all quarters.

A similar organization in England, "The British Ship Adoption Society," has been functioning for many years. There 826 schools have "adopted" a total of 1,200 ships. The success of the British venture plus the natural interest of Norwegian youth in ships and sailing indicates that the "adoption" plan will become a permanent institution in the world's third largest shipping nation.

India

Exchange and Finance

India and the "Empire Dollar Pool".—From the beginning of the war through March 31, 1946, India earned 4,050,000,000 rupees' worth of United States dollars and spent 2,400,000,000 rupees, thus leaving a net dollar surplus of 1,650,000,000 rupees in the "Empire dollar pool," stated a press release of the Finance Department, Government of India, on October 7, 1946. Against this, India had a net deficit of other hard currencies which, when deducted, left India a net contributor of 1,140,000,000 rupees ($342,000,000) to the pool. There reportedly were substantial withdrawals from the pool in the quarter ended June 30, 1946, mainly because of food imports and other payments on Government account.

The statement also indicated the status of the postwar dollar fund set up by the British for the purchase of capital expenditures after the war. In 1943–44, the sum of $20,000,000 was set aside for this purpose, with the understanding that a similar sum would be credited to it in 1944–45, provided India's dollar earnings equaled those of 1943–44. It is announced that this allocation has just been made, giving India a total credit of $40,000,000. Against this, India has sanctioned the importation of capital goods, ships, and other industrial expenditures up to $28,000,000. It is specifically stated that India's purchases are not limited by the amount in this fund, as India has the right to draw on the "dollar pool" for all capital goods, the importation of which it regards as legitimate.

The statement concluded with a reference to the simplification of import licensing in India and the various announcements of relaxation which have appeared in recent months.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of November 9 and 16, 1946, for relaxation on imports from the United States.]

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Capital - Goods - Registration Plan Abolished.—The plan for the registration of postwar requirements of capital goods in India has been abolished, according to a telegram from the American Embassy, New Delhi, dated December 20, 1946. This plan, which became effective with regard to capital goods imports of high value shipped to India after July 1, 1945, prescribed that all proposed imports of machine tools of f. o. b. value of 10,000 rupees ($3,000) and above, and all other capital goods items with an f. o. b. value of 25,000 rupees ($7,500) and above, be accepted for registration with the Chief Controller of Import before an import license could be granted.

This is the third revision of controls on the importation of capital goods into India which has been announced in recent months. In July 1946, a number of items were exempted from registration requirements, and in September 1946, a relaxation of import licensing for capital goods from nonsterling areas was announced. With the abolition of the registration scheme, importers of capital

(Continued on p. 36)

News by COMMODITIES

Prepared in Commodities Branch, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce

Automotive Products

Canadian Exports

Exports of automotive products from Canada in the period January–October 1946 included 8,800 freight automobiles of 1-ton capacity or less, valued at $4,966,597, and 29,023 of more than 1-ton capacity, with a value of $32,855,597.

Passenger automobiles exported in the first 10 months of 1946 totaled 6,818 ($2,176,333) in the class of $500 or less; 10,493 ($7,213,112) in the class between $500 and $1,000; and 1,159 ($1,280,462) in the class valued at more than $1,000.

Automotive parts exported in that period reached a total value of $17,455,909.

Production of automobiles in Canada during January–October 1946 totaled 135,797, of which production for export amounted to 52,330 units.

Market in Cuba

An immediate Cuban market for 15,000 motor vehicles, including passenger cars, trucks, and chassis, is estimated by local automobile dealers.

Imports of new passenger cars into Cuba in the first 11 months of 1946 reached a total of 2,859. Receipts in November 1946 totaled 611 units (all of United States origin) compared with 156 in October. Used automobiles imported in November consisted of 69 passenger cars, 44 trucks, 1 bus, 2 truck chassis, and 2 jeeps. Imports of new trucks and chassis in November increased to 139 trucks and 394 chassis from 10 and 61, respectively, in October.

Beverages

Whisky Exports From Scotland, U. K.

During September 1946 exports of Scotch whisky to the United States amounted to 291,662 proof gallons, as compared with 143,987 proof gallons in September 1945 and a monthly average of 327,805 proof gallons in 1938.

Inquiries are being received in Scotland from South America, and steady business continues with Canada. New orders from Australia may be expected.

Chemicals

Iraq's Urgent Need for Insecticide Materials

Iraq is striving to obtain insecticide materials to fight the locust plague and the spread of Dubas disease, both of which seriously threaten the country's agriculture. One hundred long tons of sodium arsenite, 40 tons of paris green, and 40 tons of sodium fluoride are urgently needed.

Normally, locust infestation occurs in an area of about 50,000 acres, but in 1945–46 this figure increased to more than 300,000. Thus far in 1946–47, infestation is reported on 515,000 acres, which is more than treble the heaviest infestation since 1921.

Only a few pounds of nicotine sulfate are available to control the Dubas bug which attacks the date crop, and the minimum quantity needed is estimated at 20 tons.

Pyrethrum Output Expected to Increase, Yugoslavia

The pyrethrum industry in Yugoslavia has been seriously interrupted in the past few years. Collections by farmers have been small, and there has been little concern about the crop. Interest is being renewed, however, and production is likely to expand.

It is estimated that the output of pyrethrum in 1946 amounted to about 100 metric tons. Practically the entire crop will be exported to the Soviet Union. The pyrethrin content of current supplies averages 0.73 to 0.84 percent. Production in the period 1933–37 amounted to 698 tons.

Cinchona Bark From Far East Again Reaches U. S.

The first imports of cinchona bark from the Far East since 1942 made their appearance in United States official statistics in October 1946.

The quantity imported was 44,800 pounds, and it was shown as originating in British Malaya.

Prior to 1942 practically all of the United States imports from the Far East originated in the Netherlands Indies. Bark from Far Eastern sources is usually referred to as "Netherlands Indies bark," and the quinine content is much higher on an average than for barks produced in other world areas.

Electrical Machinery

Australian Trade

Australian imports of electrical goods and apparatus were valued at £6,446,000 in 1944–45 compared with £4,851,000 in 1943–44. The trade was shared almost wholly by the United Kingdom and the United States.

Among the items showing increases were certain kinds of batteries, fractional-horsepower motors, telegraph and telephone material, transformers, and radio parts. Radio sets were imported in decreasing volume, as were measuring and recording instruments and cable.

Exports of electrical goods from Australia in 1944–45 were valued at £299,000 compared with £183,000 in 1943–44. The principal markets were New Zealand and the Pacific islands, some exports going to India and Ceylon. The largest volume of exports was in radio goods, batteries, cable and wire, and refrigerators.

Production Capacity in Italian Electrical Industry

The Italian electrical industry in 1944 was reported to have maximum monthly capacity of production, on the basis of a 48-hour week, as follows:

	Metric tons
Electrical machines	1,808
Transformers and rectifiers with metallic box	1,031
Controlling and regulating equipment refasing condensers	880
Measuring and registering devices	25
Meters	60
Storage and dry cells	1,498
Industrial electric furnaces and welding machines	422
Installation material	150
Household devices	294
Bulbs	300
Lighting apparatus	36
Telephony and telegraphy apparatus (cables and wires, excluding tubes)	108
Broadcasting and acoustic devices and installations (apart from thermoionic tubes)	346

	Metric tons
Communication condensers	14
Thermoionic tubes	800
Electromedical devices (apart from Roentgen and any other glass or quartz tubes)	45
Roentgen tubes for electromedical apparatus	515
Insulated cables and wire for power transmission-communication cables and line equipment	2,299
Insulating materials	508
	800
Coal products	4
Electric equipment for automobiles and aircraft	130

SMALL GENERATORS MANUFACTURED IN KIEV PLANT, U. S. S. R.

The manufacture in a Kiev plant, U. S. S. R., of small wind-powered generators for use on collective farms is reported by the Soviet press.

The VD–3,5 model consists of a small generator, two batteries, a propeller, and a switchboard mounted on a 12-meter wooden pole. The blades move with as little wind as 7½ miles an hour. When there is no wind the current is obtained from batteries. A 24-hour charge of this generator provides enough power to light 45 bulbs for 24 hours or run a small radio transmitter.

Penicillin for Export Freed From Control

Penicillin, famous for its use in combatting a wide variety of infections, was freed by the Civilian Production Administration (OTC) on December 23 from *all* distribution control.

Control on the distribution of penicillin was dropped, CPA officials said, because production now is adequate for all domestic *and export* requirements, having reached 2.7 trillion Oxford units in October as compared with 675 billion units in October 1945 and 230 billion units in October 1944.

Action was taken by revoking schedule 118 to General Allocation Order M–300, which had provided for allocations monthly for various Government agencies and for the designation monthly of aggregate quantities for domestic use and for export.

Foodstuffs and Allied Products

Coffee and Cacao

COSTA RICAN CACAO INDUSTRY

Production of cacao in Costa Rica during 1947 may exceed 4,000,000 kilograms (1 kilogram=2.2046 pounds).

The export volume for the calendar year 1946 was estimated at about 3,500,000 kilograms, as compared with 1,306,602 kilograms in 1945. During the period July 1 to September 30, 1946, exports of cacao amounted to approximately 935,009 kilograms, valued at $209,519 f. o. b. Port Limon, Costa Rica, as against 22,077 kilograms, valued at $4,415 in the like period of 1945.

No stocks of cacao were being held in Costa Rica at the end of the third quarter, as sales were being made far ahead of delivery, and there was sufficient shipping space for cacao as it became ready for shipment.

EXPORTS OF CACAO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Very little cacao has been sold in the Dominican Republic for export. At the end of November 1946 it was estimated by trade and shipping circles that not more than 10,000 bags of 70 kilograms each of cacao would be in port warehouses awaiting shipment.

During October 1946 exports of cacao amounted to 227,753 kilograms, valued at $35,576, as compared with 423,964 kilograms, valued at $73,741, in October 1945. Exports of chocolate in October 1946 totaled 172,386 kilograms, valued at $58,579, as against 24,056 kilograms, valued at $8,890, in the like month of 1945.

Exports of cacao during the first 10 months of 1946 amounted to 22,832,622 kilograms, valued at $3,662,646, compared with 14,947,677 kilograms, valued at $2,462,465, during the corresponding months of 1945.

ECUADOR'S MARKETS FOR COFFEE

Coffee exports from Ecuador in the first 9 months of 1946 amounted to 5,138,763 kilograms (1 kilogram=2.2046 pounds), according to preliminary official statistics, as against 4,599,258 kilograms in the corresponding period of 1945. In the January–September period of 1946, Cuba was the leading importer, taking 2,526,070 kilograms, and the United States ranked second with 1,800,464 kilograms. The United States was the principal importer of Ecuadoran coffee during the January-September period of 1945, taking 2,956,327 kilograms.

Fruits and Vegetables

SHIPMENTS FROM HABANA, CUBA

The movement of fresh Cuban tomatoes to the New York market began on the last day of November 1946. Only about 81,000 pounds were shipped as compared with the November average of 1,486,621 pounds exported during the years 1939–41. It was expected that 5,000,000 pounds (125,000 lugs) would be available for shipment in December.

The 5,700,000 pounds of fresh pineapples shipped to the United States from Habana during November 1946 constituted the largest monthly total since the close of the spring pineapple shipping session in July 1946. The fruit shipped during the fall and winter represents pineapple naturally and artificially ripened out of the usual season. Unless there are unforeseen difficulties, shipments of pineapples should be fairly large through the winter and spring.

Exports of other fruit from Habana in November 1946 consisted of small quantities of plantains, papayas, bananas, and melons.

Grains and Products

RICE PRODUCTION, TAIWAN (CHINA)

Rice production in Taiwan (China) during the calendar year 1946 was estimated in August 1946 at 878,162 metric tons, a 35.5 percent increase from the 648,087 tons produced in 1945, according to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry. Scattered typhoon damage occurring subsequent to that date, however, probably resulted in some reduction in the crop.

WHEAT AND CORN CROPS, UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Union of South Africa's 1946 wheat crop was the largest in several years. Preliminary estimates placed the output at from 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 bags of 200 pounds each. The two preceding crops were less than 3,500,000 bags. During the last few months of 1946 wheat mills operated entirely on imports. Imports of wheat, flour, and wheat meal in the first 9 months of 1946 totaled 1,563,752 bags.

Final estimates of the Union of South Africa Department of Agriculture place the 1945–46 maize (corn) crop at 18,131,000 bags of 200 pounds each, or 168,000 bags less than the 1944–45 crop. The short crop was supplemented during January 1 to September 30, 1946, by the import of 3,145,000 bags of maize (corn)—3,000,000 from Argentina and the remainder from Kenya, Angola, and Mozambique. Severe restrictions on feeding the grain to livestock remain in effect, and additional imports are needed to prevent a critical shortage before the next crop is harvested beginning June or July 1947.

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Spices and Related Products

Vanilla-Bean Crop, Exports, and Stocks, Madagascar

Madagascar's 1946 crop of vanilla beans may total more than 500 metric tons. The crop was gathered from May to October, and some of it will probably be shipped in February 1947.

The quota on exports of vanilla beans has been abolished, and there is no limit to the amount of good-quality vanilla beans exporters may ship to the United States.

Old stocks of exportable quality probably amount to about 200 metric tons. Vanilla-bean crops vary in size. In 1944 about 225 tons were produced, and in 1943 the crop totaled 562 tons.

Sugars and Products

Sugar Production in Taiwan (China)

Sugar production in Taiwan (China) which reached a peak of 1,374,043 metric tons in 1939 and totaled 1,084,104 tons in the 1942 crop year, was estimated at only 80,000 metric tons in 1946. Only 30,000 tons of the 1946 crop will be marketed; the remainder will be used for seed purposes.

Under the present program, 300,000 metric tons of sugar will be available for market use in 1947, and the goal of an annual production of 1,000,000 tons is expected to be reached in 1951.

Conditions in Sugar Industry, Eire

In Eire's 1945–46 sugar-production season (October–January), 702,312 long tons of sugar beets yielded 92,920 long tons of sugar. Less acreage was planted to sugar beets for the 1946 crop than for the preceding year's crop, and unfavorable weather was experienced. The 1946 beet crop was expected to yield 75,000 long tons of refined sugar unless labor stoppages reported toward the end of November further reduced production.

An estimated 84,000 tons of sugar were consumed domestically in 1946. In addition, exports of sugar to the European Continent under the Government's relief program were expected to total 10,000 tons. The domestic sugar ration was maintained in 1946 at three-fourths of a pound per person per week.

In the first 7 months of 1946, 16,010 hundredweight of sugar was imported, as compared with 6,611 hundredweight in the like period of 1945. There are no commercial exports of sugar from Eire.

On September 30, 1946, stocks of refined sugar amounted to 18,500 long tons as against 21,500 long tons on September 22, 1945.

Short Sugar Crop, Union of South Africa

The 1946–47 sugar crop of the Union of South Africa is estimated at 467,000 short tons, even less than the preceding year's short crop of 553,074 tons. No exports are allowed, and it is expected that sugar will be one of the first foods to be rationed.

Furs

Importance of Blue Fox in Norway's Fur Trade

Blue foxes are becoming increasingly important in Norway's fur trade, and many breeders are discontinuing the raising of silver and platinum foxes in favor of the blue variety.

During the 1946–47 season, it is estimated that production will total approximately 100,000 silver-fox skins; 45,000 to 50,000 blue-fox pelts; 9,000 to 12,000 platinum; and 25,000 mink skins. In the 1938–39 season, 380,000 silver-fox and 15,000 blue-fox skins were marketed.

Iron and Steel

Bell Island Iron Mines Regaining Trade, Newfoundland

The Wabana Iron Mines of Bell Island, Conception Bay, Newfoundland, are reported to have promising prospects of regaining trade lost during the war. Shipments during that period went principally to the mills at Sydney, Nova Scotia, with only some small tonnage moving to Great Britain.

The original order from Great Britain called for 750,000 tons of ore a year for 5 years. Shipments up to the end of October 1946 totaled 591,838 tons, and the full year's contract was expected to be filled. Negotiations were reported to be under way for the sale of 40,000 to 50,000 tons of ore to Belgium. An order from Boston for 20,000 tons of ore was expected to be filled in two, or possibly three, shipments.

Shipments to Sydney, tied up by the Canadian steel strike, were resumed in October when 154,684 tons of ore were moved. Shipments to Sydney in 1946 up to the end of October totaled 323,720 tons, which was less than half the recent average of 650,000 tons a season. Scarcely more than 500,000 tons were expected to reach the mills during the season.

With about 200,000 tons of ore still to go forward to Great Britain during the last 2 months of the year, 180,000 tons to Sydney, and 20,000 tons to the new market in Boston, the Wabana mines were expected to maintain round-the-

OTC's New Abacá Order Expected To Influence Philippine Cutting

Reduction of processors' permitted inventories of spinnable manila fiber (abacá) from 120 to 90 days was announced December 23 by the Civilian Production Administration (Office of Temporary Controls). Action was taken by amendment of M–84, the manila and agave fiber and cordage order, effective immediately.

CPA said the smaller inventory allowance will assure better distribution among American manufacturers, and will discourage premature cutting of abacá plants in the Philippines which would result in a reduced fiber production next season.

Under the new provisions of M–84, no processor may accept delivery of any spinnable manila fiber, or yarn made from that fiber, if his inventory will exceed his normal 90 days' needs for making products permitted under the order.

The amendment points out that restrictions on the end-use of manila and agave fibers apply even if yarns and twine are produced outside the United States. To provide close control over the flow of manila fiber and yarn to the United States, the amendment requires importers to send monthly reports to CPA showing shipments and inventories for each calendar month.

Prior to November 18, 1946, all manila fiber was purchased by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for allocation by CPA. After the Philippine abacá agreement was ended, CPA limited inventories to 120 days after December 9, 1946.

Inventory restrictions on processors under M–84 apply only to supplies within the continental United States. Fiber and yarns afloat or not released by United States customs are not considered processors' inventory. CPA will continue to allocate all fiber and yarn purchased by RFC.

clock shifts employing an average of 2,200 persons until the end of the season. A regular shuttle service between the mines and Canadian steel mills was being performed by several ore boats.

Leather and Products

Canada's Production of Footwear

In September 1946 operating leather-footwear factories in Canada numbered 288, or 4 more than in July.

Production of leather footwear in September totaled 3,489,258 pairs, as compared with 3,729,059 in the preceding month and 3,126,099 in September 1945. This total of 32,762,466 pairs in the first 9 months of 1946 was considerably more than the 28,318,296 pairs manufactured in the corresponding period of 1945.

Of the 1946 cumulative total, 10,344,883 pairs comprised men's and boys' footwear; 17,573,002 women's and misses'; 2,173,244 children's and 2,671,337 infants'.

Iraq's Exports of Skins

During the third quarter of 1946, Iraq's exports of sheep, lamb, and goat skins to the United States amounted to approximately 591,589, 46,400, and 157,944 units, respectively. These shipments brought the 9 months' total to 1,280,470 sheep skins, 62,192 lamb skins, and 581,944 goat skins.

Activity increased in the tanning industry; a new tannery was being erected in Mosul.

Lumber and Products

Timber Exports From British Guiana

Exports of timber from British Guiana totaled 233,187 cubic feet during the first 8 months of 1946, compared with 210,112 cubic feet during the corresponding period of 1945, according to a foreign publication.

A company registered in Belgium had acquired timber concessions, and in September expected to start operating soon.

Production in British Columbia, Canada

Logs scaled in British Columbia, Canada, totaled 2,468,675,169 board feet during the first 10 months of 1946, compared with 2,460,181,595 board feet during the corresponding period of 1945.

Production of poles and piling totaled 56,692,903 lineal feet during the first 10 months of 1946, compared with 24,194,959 feet during the corresponding period of 1945. The output of railroad ties numbered 409,366 units, compared with 478,543, units during the first 9 months of 1945.

Britain's Radio-Set Business Leaps Ahead Again

The number of radios in use in the homes of Great Britain reached an all-time high at the end of September 1946, according to the British press. The total number of current licenses at that time was 10,706,000.

The report states that the production target for new radio sets among manufacturers in the United Kingdom as a whole for the year June 1946 to May 1947 is about 1,750,000, of which some 400,000 are intended for export. It is expected that this goal will be exceeded. The present production is reportedly at an annual rate nearly equal to that of 1938 when 1,600,000 sets were made.

Exports in January–June 1946 were valued at £2,869,000, compared with £1,940,000 for the entire year 1938. The major portion went to British Empire countries and to Europe.

During September 1946, 77,000 receivers were put on the home market, compared with 67,000 in August and 89,000 in July.

Production expanded from a level of 45,000 in January to 124,000 in July, dropping to 116,000 in August, the press report states. This recovery is considered remarkable, particularly in view of the fact that production for the home market was completely at a standstill between 1941 and 1944 and that in the latter year only a limited program of utility sets was carried through.

There is no ceiling on the number of sets that can be made. The Ministry of Supply issues a block license for the industry which is split up among individual companies. Shortages of timber, of enameled copper wire, and of electrical steel sheet are not allowed to impede output, substitutes such as plastics for cases and other materials being used.

Program for Czechslovakia's Industry

As part of the recently announced 2-year program for the rehabilitation of all Czechoslovakian industries, plans have been made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to produce during 1948 certain quantities of specific kinds of timber and related products, according to a European trade journal. The production plan during that year which is expected to come from normal fellings, is as follows: Sawn goods, 2,828,000 cubic meters; plywood, 59,000 cubic meters; railway sleepers, 169,000 cubic meters; and veneer, 5,874,000 square meters. More than 80 percent of the timber to be felled will be hardwoods.

It is expected that not more than 10 percent of the total production during the next 2 years will be made available for export.

Exports From Portugal

Principal exports from Portugal during 1945 included 59,000 metric tons of lumber and products. Exports of lumber and products in 1939 amounted to 218,000 metric tons.

Uruguay's Wood Imports

Wood imports into Uruguay totaled 51,349 metric tons during the first half of 1946, compared with 43,520 tons during the corresponding period of 1945. Most of the increase of 18 percent was due to the arrival of 5,236 metric tons of railroad ties.

Imports during the first 6 months of 1946 included 17,422 tons of Brazilian pine, 3,307 tons of southern pine and similar species, 433 tons of Brazilian plywood, 2,093 tons of posts and pickets, 2,320 kilograms of walnut veneer from Spain, 102,822 kilograms of plywood from Finland, and 577 tons of oak from the United States. No imports of United States oak were noted during the first 6 months of 1945. The arrival of Spanish walnut veneer and plywood of Finnish origin during the second quarter of 1946 was something new in wood imports. The large demand of the construction industry was responsible for a 24-percent increase in imports of Brazilian pine during the first half of 1946 from the corresponding period of 1945.

Nonferrous Metals

Construction of Copper-Molybdenum Combine, U. S. S. R.

A copper-molybdenum combine under construction near the village of Kadzharan in Armenia, U. S. S. R., will process 3,000 tons of ore a day, the Soviet

press reports. A pilot concentrating mill will have a daily capacity of 50 tons.

The cutting of shafts and construction of the concentrating mill are already under way. A 35-kilometer highway between Kadzharan and Kafan is reported to be almost complete.

With part of the combine scheduled to begin in 1948, the projected capacity is expected to be reached by 1950.

Resources of Nonferrous Metals in Kazakhstan, U. S. S. R.

The Kazakh Republic in Soviet Russia has more than one-half of the total copper and zinc resources of the U. S. S. R., 80 percent of the lead, and 60 percent of the molybdenum. The Republic also is rich in tin, cobalt, tungsten, gold, silver, vanadium, nickel, and other metals.

Development of the Kazakh mineral resources during the first 5-year plan (1928–32) included the placing in operation of a lead-smelting plant and an enriching mill at Ridder (now Leninogorsk), the Karsakpai copper-smelting plant, the Leninogorsk and the Zyryanovskoye lead and zinc mines, the Dzheskazgan copper mine in a field that extends over an area of 120 kilometers.

The second 5-year plan included the development of the Chimkent lead plant, the Achisai ore-concentrating combine, the Irtysh copper-smelting plant, the Kounrad mine, and the Sokolny and Beloussovka lead and zinc mines.

The first years of the third 5-year plan were marked by the opening of a large copper-smelting plant at Balkhash, an additional concentrating mill in Leninogorsk, and a mining equipment plant in Dzhusaly.

Continued expansion of Kazakhstan resources was required to meet the war-created demand for nonferrous metals. The Tekeli Lead and Zinc Combine, the Mirgalimsaik and the Baidzhansaisk ore-concentrating combines, and the East Kounrad molybdenum mines were placed in operation. Nickel mining was begun in Kimpersai, a large tungsten enterprise was built in Akchatau, and a new rolled-copper plant was built. Balkhash, already well-known as a center of the copper industry, played an important part as the source of supply of molybdenum, having begun production in November 1941.

Further expansion is expected during the current 5-year plan, when 1,670,000,000 rubles will be used for the development of the non-ferrous-metal industry in Kazakhstan. This amount compares with the aggregate of 2,900,000,000 rubles spent for construction in this industry during the first three 5-year plans and the war years (1928–45).

Production of black copper in Kazakhstan in 1950 is expected to increase 150 percent from the prewar level, making Kazakhstan the leading producer of copper in the U. S. S. R. The town of Dzhezkazgan will develop into a vast mining and metallurgical center, the smelting of lead will increase, and new deposits will be developed.

Some polymetallic ore deposits contain more zinc than lead, but no zinc is smelted locally at present. This operation may be undertaken in the near future in Kazakhstan.

Soviet geologists, who have discovered more than 2,100 deposits of nonferrous metals in the region, state that there is no immediate danger of exhausting the Republic's deposits of ore.

Department of Commerce Field Service

(October 8, 1946)

Albany 7, N. Y., Room 409, County Courthouse.
Albuquerque, N. Mex., 203 W. Gold Ave.
Atlanta 3, Ga., 78 Marietta St.
Baltimore 2, Md., 803 Cathedral St.
Boston 9, Mass., 1800 Customhouse.
Buffalo 3, N. Y., 242 Federal Bldg.
Burlington, Vt., Rutland Railroad Station.
Charleston 3, S. C., 310 Peoples Bldg.
Charleston 1, W. Va., 612 Atlas Bldg.
Charlotte, N. C., 112½ E. Fourth St.
Chattanooga 2, Tenn., 505 Federal Post Office.
Cheyenne, Wyo., Federal Recreation Bldg.
Chicago 4, Ill., 357 U. S. Courthouse.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio, Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
Cleveland 14, Ohio, 1286 Union Commerce Bldg.
Columbus 1, Ohio, 1037 N. High St.
Dallas 2, Tex., 602 Santa Fe Bldg.
Denver 2, Colo., 302 Midland Savings Bldg.
Des Moines 9, Iowa, 518 Grand Ave.
Detroit 26, Mich., 1028 New Federal Bldg.
Duluth 5, Minn., 310 Christie Bldg.
El Paso 7, Tex., Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
Erie, Pa., Security People's Trust Co.
Fargo, N. Dak., 210 Walker Bldg.
Grand Rapids 2, Mich., 736 Keeler Bldg.
Hartford 6, Conn., 436 Capitol Ave.
Houston 14, Tex., 603 Federal Office Bldg.
Indianapolis 4, Ind., Chamber of Commerce.
Jacksonville 1, Fla., 425 Federal Bldg.
Jackson 5, Miss., Masonic Temple Bldg.
Kansas City 6, Mo., 600 Interstate Bldg.
Little Rock 5, Ark., 312 Pyramid Bldg.
Los Angeles 12, Calif., 1540 U. S. Post Office and Courthouse.
Louisville 1, Ky., 631 Federal Bldg.
Manchester, N. H., 814 Elm St., Beacon Bldg.
Memphis 3, Tenn., 229 Federal Bldg.
Miami 32, Fla., 701 Congress Bldg.
Milwaukee, Wis., 332 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Minneapolis 1, Minn., 1234 Metropolitan Life Bldg.
Mobile 5, Ala., City Hall Annex (2d floor).
New Haven 10, Conn., 152 Temple St.
New Orleans 12, La., 333 St. Charles Ave.
New York 1, N. Y., 60th Floor, Empire State Bldg.
Norfolk, Va., 712 Wainwright Bldg.
Oklahoma City 2, Okla., 901–905 Petroleum Bldg.
Omaha 2, Nebr., 918 City National Bank Bldg.
Peoria, Ill., 531 First National Bank Bldg.
Philadelphia 3, Pa., 1612 Market St.
Phoenix 8, Ariz., 234 N. Central St.
Pittsburgh 19, Pa., 7th Ave. and Grant St.
Portland 3, Maine, 76 Pearl St.
Portland 4, Oreg., 520 SW. Morrison St.
Providence 3, R. I., Customhouse.
Richmond 19, Va., Room 2, Mezzanine, 801 E. Broad St.
St. Louis 1, Mo., 107 New Federal Bldg.
Salt Lake City 1, Utah, 312 Atlas Bldg.
San Antonio 5, Tex., 101 Transit Tower Bldg.
San Diego 1, Calif., 906 Columbia St.
San Francisco 11, Calif., 307 Customhouse.
Savannah, Ga., Room 6, U. S. Courthouse and P. O. Bldg.
Scranton, Pa., First Natl. Bank Bldg.
Seattle 4, Wash., 809 Federal Office Bldg.
Sioux Falls 6, S. Dak., 310 Policyholders Natl. Bldg.
Syracuse 2, N. Y., 224 Harrison St.
Texarkana 5, Tex., 817 Texarkana Natl. Bank Bldg.
Wichita 2, Kans., 205 K. F. H. Bldg.
Worcester 8, Mass., 340 Main St.

Paints and Pigments

Australia's Imports of Black Pigments

Australia imported 159,000 hundredweight (1 hundredweight=112 pounds) of black pigments from the United States in the 12-month period ended June 1946. These imports were valued at £310,000.

Paper and Related Products

Situation in Denmark

Present demand for paper in Denmark far exceeds what the domestic industry can produce. As a result, all of the mills are operating at or near capacity. Efforts are being made to discourage imports in order to save foreign exchange. More foreign exchange is required to import paper than to import chemical and mechanical pulps.

Of the 11 paper mills in Denmark, 6 represent the bulk of the country's present total capacity of about 82,000 metric tons. Production during 1945 was about 80 percent of capacity, chiefly because of difficulties encountered in getting raw

material. Danish production of paper and paperboard is shown in table 1. Imports are shown in table 2.

TABLE 1.—*Danish Production of Paper and Board, by Types*

[In metric tons]

Type	1938	1944	1945
Gray bookbinder board	1,122	1,788	1,934
Other paperboard	7,292	13,330	10,887
Wrapping paper	21,666	28,521	24,013
Newsprint	125	204	163
Artificial leather board	131	7	398
Printing and writing paper	31,361	29,080	19,506
Fine paper	2,280	2,324	1,480
Carton	178	995	695
Loaded paper	72	78	80
Wallpaper	1,902	2,420	1,508
Other papers	3,110	3,930	4,032
Total	69,239	82,677	64,696

SOURCE: Danish Statistical Department.

TABLE 2.—*Imports of Paper Into Denmark*

[In metric tons]

Type	1937	1944	1945	First quarter of 1946
Paperboard	20,949	17,592	15,367	6,894
Newsprint	50,802	16,900	38,873	6,936
Kraft wrapping	13,092	12,323	6,961	1,759
Special board	4,712	7,762	5,970	2,480
Writing and printing paper	6,222	15,107	8,223	2,368
Other qualities	11,467	16,073	12,263	3,479
Total	107,244	85,757	87,657	23,916

The Danish paper industry is dependent upon outside sources for supplies of most kinds of pulp. Chemical-pulp imports generally amount to about 60,000 metric tons annually, and mechanical pulp about 25,000 tons. Since there has been no change in Danish paper-production capacity, import requirements of pulp are expected to continue on the same level as during the past several years. With the exception of waste paper, no significant change in pulp import requirements has been noted since the war. Since 1942, an average of about 1,500 metric tons of waste paper has been imported, whereas in preceding years only small quantities were imported.

Nearly all the requirements for wallboard must be met by imports, Norway, Sweden, and Finland being the chief suppliers. Imports of wallboard totaled 4,943 metric tons during the first 4 months of 1946, compared with 9,903 tons during 1945, and 2,390 tons in 1937.

Only 240.7 metric tons of paper and paper fiber were exported during 1944, compared with 15,427.7 tons during 1938. Exports during 1944, with figures for 1938 in parentheses, were made up of the following, in metric tons: Waste paper, 106.5 (12,6640.0); chemical pulp, none (3.8); paperboard, 5.9 (92.2); newsprint, none (5.4); wrapping paper, none (85.2); other papers, 13.0 (97.6); wallpaper, 1.0 (11.9); special papers and paperboards, 4.5 (1,544.3); bags, sacks, and boxes, 13.9 (822.4); articles of writing paper, 58.3 (29.5); and other converted paper and paperboard articles, 37.6 (85.4).

With the exception of waste paper, the prewar exportation was made up chiefly of converted paper products and special papers and boards, and a considerable portion went to Germany, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Iceland during prewar years. Exports during 1945 and the first quarter of 1946 went principally to Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway, and Iceland.

Because of the present great demand for paper in Denmark, it is necessary to limit consumption. This is done by regulating the delivery of paper according to the individual's customer's purchase in 1943 when production was at a peak.

IMPORTS OF PAPER PRODUCTS, PANAMA

Imports of paper products into Panama increased to a value of $810,652 during the first 6 months of 1946, from $482,709 during the corresponding period of 1945.

INCREASED IMPORTS, URUGUAY

Imports of paper into Uruguay totaled 5,300 short tons during the second quarter of 1946, compared with 4,000 tons during the preceding quarter, and 3,100 tons in the corresponding quarter of 1945. Newsprint represented a large share of the paper imports during the first half of 1946, totaling 6,300 tons.

Shipbuilding

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM, AUSTRALIA

The Australian Commonwealth Shipping Board, created in 1941, has decided on a modified design of the *Scottish Monarch* type as the most suitable oversea cargo vessel to be built in Australia. The original program calling for the construction of 60 ships of 9,000 tons deadweight capacity in a period of 5 years was modified because of the demand for shipping repairs and an increased emphasis on coastal trade.

The final program called for 13 vessels of 9,000 tons, 4 of 6,000 tons, 12 of 4,500 tons, 8 of 2,900 tons, 5 of 550 tons, and 32 wooden cargo vessels of 300 tons each.

Shipyards in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Southern Australia were used in the construction of vessels in the 9,000-ton class, the last (thirteenth) of which was scheduled to be launched in November 1946. Described as single-screw, shelter-deck steamers, these vessels have water-tube boilers equipped with mechanical stokers for coal-firing and an alternative arrangement for burning oil. A triple-expansion reciprocating engine is installed, to which is coupled an exhaust turbine operating through reduction gearing and fluid coupling. The vessels are used principally for oversea shipping and are designed for service speed of 12 knots.

Soap

EXPORTS RESTRICTED, BELGIAN CONGO

The Government of the Belgian Congo has restricted the exportation of household soap of local production. The ruling does not apply to toilet soap or to noncommercial shipments of household soap in small quantities. This action was taken to avoid a shortage of locally manufactured soap in the Belgian Congo.

Soap manufactured after November 30, 1946, may be exported upon obtaining permission of the Government General, provided the shipment is made from localities where the manufacture of soap will not deplete supplies of raw materials (especially palm oil) in the Belgian Congo.

Textiles and Related Products

Cotton and Products

REQUIREMENTS EXCEED SUPPLY IN CHILE

Chilean imports of raw cotton during the first half of 1946 amounted to 3,185 metric tons, as compared with 4,732 tons during the corresponding period of 1945.

Although production and imports of cotton yarns have increased slightly, they fall short of requirements of the weaving and knitting mills. Weavers and knitters who spin their own yarn operate three shifts, but those depending on outside sources for yarn supplies are running on a reduced schedule.

Although imports from foreign sources have increased slightly, the cotton piece-goods stock situation remains acute. Distribution of domestic cotton piece goods, as well as wholesale and retail prices are under Government control.

COTTON EXPORTS, HAITI

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 1946, Haiti exported 4,868 metric tons of cotton, as compared with only 1,037 tons in the preceding fiscal year. Colombia has become the chief purchaser.

COTTON CULTIVATION AND MANUFACTURE, INDIA

Approximately 90,000 acres in the State of Mysore, India, are devoted to cotton cultivation.

(Continued on p. 27)

Transport, Utilities, and Communications

Prepared in Transportation and Communications Division, Office of International Trade

Government of Sind To Build Three Power-Generating Stations

The Government of Sind, India, has announced the proposed construction of three hydroelectric generating stations which will supply electric power for lighting and industrial purposes to a large number of towns and villages in that State.

Two of the plants are to be constructed on the Rohri Canal, one near Sukkur, and the other near the Bandhi Railway station. The third plant will be on the Eastern Nara Canal.

The Rohri Canal is to be remodeled prior to the building of the power plant. The capacity of the hydroelectric plant will be 10,000 kilowatts, and a Diesel-operated stand-by of the same capacity will be used to operate during emergencies. The supply of power from this Diesel plant is to be available in 1949 in Sukkur and Rohri, and extended to other places if urgently needed.

Twenty-five important towns and villages in the districts of Sukkur, Jacobabad, and Larkens will receive power from this proposed plant, when it is ready for operation in 1951–52.

The proposed plant on the Rohri Canal near the Bandhi Railway station will have a capacity of 5,000 kilowatts. From this plant transmission lines will extend to Hyderabad, Sind, by way of Sakrand and Hala—by which electric power will be supplied to Hyderabad, Nawabshah, Tando Adam, Shahdadpur, Sakrand, Hala, Uderolal, Matiari, Tando Mohamed Khan, Tando Allshayar, and other villages.

London Bus and Subway Fares Will Be Upped

Bus and subway fares in the Greater London area will be increased sometime during January 1947. The increases are: (1) On road and rail services the existing 1½d. fare will be retained, while existing 2d. fares will be raised to 2½d.; (2) on the road services all existing fares over 2d. will be increased by 1d., none of these fares having been increased during the war; (3) on the rail services existing fares of 3d. and 4d. will be increased by 1d.; and (4) rail fares over 4d., which have been increased during the war, will remain as at present.

Switzerland's Road System Enriched by New Highway

An exceptionally fine new Alpine road has been added to Switzerland's network. This is the 30-mile-long Sustenstrasse which traverses the Susten Pass connecting the Reuss Valley in the east with the Upper Aar Valley in the west—running parallel to the Furka route about 15 miles north.

The Sustenstrasse starts at the little village of Wassen (3,100 feet) in the Canton of Uri, and after crossing the Meienreuss it passes through three tunnels and out into the beautiful Meien Valley. After skirting Meiendorfli (4,200 feet), the main village of the Meien Valley, Farnigen (4,800 feet), and crossing the Sustenalp, the road disappears into the main tunnel (300 yards long) at an altitude of 7,300 feet. The actual summit of the pass is some 150 feet higher, and can be reached by a footpath.

On the western side of the pass the scenery is of an equal grandeur, and the 3 miles which run from the inn at the top to the Steingletscher Hotel below comprise the most spectacular part of all, the icebound Sustenhorn (11,414 feet) and the Wachtenhorn (11,166 feet) being but part of a magnificent panorama. From Steingletscher the road winds down to the Gadmen Valley (Gadmen village, 4,000 feet) in the Canton of Berne, and then gently to Innertkirchen (2,100 feet). Here it joins the Grimsel route, which goes over the mountain barrier of Kirchet, famous for its Aar Gorge, to the holiday center of Meiringen (2,000 feet).

Although this new road, built at a cost of approximately 31,816,000 francs, will undoubtedly play an important part in facilitating speedier road transport between the center of Switzerland and the Bernese Oberland, it was built particularly to attract tourists. While it rises 6,600 feet in less than 8 miles, the Sustenstrasse is the easiest road in the whole of the Swiss Alps to drive over. On the eastern side, the maximum gradient is 8.5 percent (1 in 11.7) and on the western side above Gadmen it is 9.5 percent (1 in 10.5). The minimum radius on curves is 15 meters and on the open road 30 meters.

The carriageway is 20 feet wide, with increased width at bends and with protective railings and curbstones to provide a maximum degree of safety. Special drains at the side of the road prevent ice from forming in the colder seasons.

Added attractions for the pleasure-seeking motorist are the ample parking spaces and platforms which have been provided for admiring views at the most salient points. Great ingenuity has been used, too, in avoiding bends and tunnels wherever possible.

Egyptian State Council Studies New Transport Bill

According to the American Embassy in Cairo, a bill giving the Egyptian State Railways priority in the operation of transport services on agricultural roads lying parallel to the railway lines has been submitted to the recently formed State Council for study.

It is said that the bill empowers the Supreme Transport Council to accept tenders from private companies for the operation of transport services on roads other than agricultural.

Such companies must be Egyptian, at least 75 percent of their capital being held by Egyptian shareholders, according to the newspapers reporting the project. Three percent of their annual revenue will go to the Government.

The bill divides Egypt into areas and provides that no transport company may operate in more than one district.

U. S. Firm Has Contract To Improve Dominican Utilities

A contract for improving certain public utilities, signed by the Government of the Dominican Republic and a United States firm, was submitted to and approved by the Senate and Lower House of Congress of the Republic in the latter part of November. The contract is for $4,100,000, which amount will be paid in quotas to begin with the approval of the contract, and to end in February 1948, the date specified for the completion of the project.

The improvements covered include waterworks in the cities of San Pedro

de Macoris, Seybo, Montecristi, Hato Mayor, Higuey, and Salcedo; an electric power plant in Higuey; and a sewerage system in El Silencio, a suburb of San Pedro de Macoris.

This project is in line with the general policy of the Government to maintain a large volume of public works entailing improvement of public utilities, port works, irrigation, and highways.

Syria Considers Building Aqueduct From Euphrates to Aleppo

Construction of an aqueduct about 80 kilometers in length, to convey water from the Euphrates River to Aleppo for the city's water supply, is under consideration by the Syrian Government.

The line is expected to run from Mouraibet to Aleppo. The size of pipe and types of pumping machinery to be installed have not been determined. One proposal covers the laying of meter pipe, the total cost of which would be £S22,000,000, the cost of the pipe alone amounting to £S12,000,000. An alternative is the laying of 60-centimeter pipe for the original line, another line to be added when needed.

Excessive costs will prevent the use of this water for irrigation. Even to pump up water available, at a depth of 10 to 20 meters, on the edge of the Damascus oasis, is considered unprofitable. The Syrian Government is planning to use water from the Euphrates for the irrigation of contiguous lands. When possible, pumping stations will be installed along the river to flood the surrounding area. The more ambitious project of damming the river will be considered later, possibly in 10 or 20 years.

Scandinavian Air Lines Operating New Routes

The Scandinavian Air Lines System, consisting of the Danish Air Lines (DDL), Norwegian Airlines (DNL), and the Swedish Intercontinental Airlines (SILA), began in December to operate North Atlantic air routes to New York. The lines also inaugurated a South Atlantic route to Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo, and service to Buenos Aires is planned for the future.

At present the S. A. S. has seven DC-4's in traffic operation, two operated by DDL, two by DNL, and three by SILA. These planes are flying the regular service to New York three times a week, and in February 1947 they will also operate one or two trips a week on the Stockholm-Rio-Montevideo route. The latter route is as follows: Stockholm-Copenhagen (connecting with the local line from Oslo), Dakar, Natal, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and vice versa. The passenger fare from Rio to Stockholm, will be 14,175 cruzeiros.

Four Boeing Stratosphere planes will be put into daily service in 1947 for North America, and seven more DC-6 planes for the South American and African routes, via Naples, Cairo, Addis Ababa and Johannesburg to Capetown. Later routes will be extended to Asia, via Ankara, Teheran, Calcutta, and Hong Kong.

These new planes will be equipped as sleepers and will cover the distance between Rio and Stockholm—about 11,000 kilometers—in 24 hours.

Norwegian Government Out To Buy Private Phone Firms

Approval by the Norwegian Storting (Parliament) of the annual budget of the State Telegraph Service, which includes an item of 8,000,000 crowns ($1,600,000) for the acquisition of private telephone companies, has focused attention on the Government's reported plans to nationalize all Norwegian telephone companies.

Inclusion of the 8,000,000-crown grant in the budget was opposed by some members of the Storting who contended that the private telephone companies were giving satisfactory service. But the Minister of Labor is said to have replied that he regarded the Storting's previous decision to acquire the Bergen Telephone Co. as indicating that similar action should be taken with regard to other private telephone companies. According to reports, he also stated that the aim of the Government must be to bring the entire communication system of the country under Government operation.

The Bergen Telephone Co. will be acquired by the Government for a reported price of 17,000,000 crowns (approximately $3,400,000). In this connection, announcement has been made that the Government intends to transfer to the Bergen company the former Norwegian interests of the German Siemens, AEG, and Telefunken organizations. These former German companies will be obtained for 3,350,000 crowns (about $670,000), and, within 3 months after the transfer, the acquired companies will be given new names.

Dredging: A Specialized Dutch Industry

Dutch engineers have virtually learned their craft standing with their boots in water, wresting the soil from the sea and then guarding their gains against its incessant onslaughts by building dikes and inventing protective devices. For centuries, they had to substitute ingenuity and perseverance for violent subjugation in their quest for new territory. This perennial battle against the forces of the sea has made them eminently suitable for dredging operations which have to be started near a barren shore where there is little shelter for ships converted into floating factories, the Netherlands Information Bureau asserts in a recent release.

Netherlands engineers have been and still are in demand wherever breakwaters for harbors must be constructed. Except for only three countries—the United States, India, and Japan—there is not a single country in the world where the Dutch have not carried out their dredging operations, says the Netherlands agency. Even Britain, which itself specializes in dredging and in the manufacture of dredging equipment, frequently places orders with the Dutch industry.

Harbor construction is a comparative newcomer in Holland's field of industrial endeavor. Only a little more than 60 years ago a foreign firm had to be commissioned for the building of such modern harbors as those of IJmunden and Amsterdam. But in 1907 a Dutch concern obtained the first foreign contract—the construction of the harbor in Shanghai, China. A few years later, in 1914, the Netherlands Harbor Works Company was commissioned to build the breakwaters, mole and quay walls at Chefoo (North China), and after the end of World War I orders for harbor construction poured in from all over the world, from China (Macao, Hongkong, Canton, Amoy, etc.), from Portugal, Persia, Tasmania, the Antilles, and Egypt, the Information Bureau states. As the industry expanded, it also concentrated on the construction of railways, warehouses, and other works connected with harbor installations.

Dutch firms also carried out dredging operations in every country in Europe, in Algiers, in Morocco, South Africa, Central and South America, Arabia, Persia, Indochina, Australia, and China.

Although control over these ex-German companies, through governmental ownership of the Bergen Telephone Co., will be absolute, it is the alleged intention of the Government, through the Ministry of Commerce, to hold directly a substantial block of shares of the three new companies and also to have one representative on the executive committee of each company, as well as on that of the Bergen Telephone Co.

While no further official announcement concerning future operations of the Bergen Telephone Co. has been made, it is reported that the company will engage in the manufacturing of electrical materials and equipment.

When the Bergen Telephone Co. has been acquired, the Norwegian Government will own about 75 percent of the country's telephone services. Private services are still in operation in Stavanger, Kristiansand, and 12 other major communities and in a few minor communities.

Saigon and San Francisco United by Radiotelegraph

The manager of the Federal Radio Communications Services in Saigon, Indochina, has notified our Consulate General that as of October 25, 1946, direct radiotelegraphic communications between Saigon and San Francisco were resumed. Technically the equipment operates in a satisfactory manner, and normal traffic may be handled efficiently through the new circuit.

Radiotelephone Service Now Set Up Between Azores Isles

A commercial radiotelephone service was inaugurated on November 7, 1946, by the Government-owned Correios Telégrafos e Teléfonos between the Portuguese islands of Sao Miguel and Santa Maria, in the Azores. Thus telephone communication was established between the important centers of Ponta Delgada and Santa Maria Airport, as well as Vila do Porto, Santa Maria Island.

The new service is open to the public from 16 to 18 hours daily, at a cost of $15 per 3 minutes, plus an additional charge of $5 for person-to-person calls.

It is reported that Santa Maria will also be linked by commercial radiotelephone with the islands of Terceira and Faial.

Guatemalan Mail to Europe Now Routed Through Panama

Mail from Guatemala destined for Europe will be routed through Panama instead of through the United States, according to press notices appearing in Guatemalan newspapers on November 26, 1946. This service heretofore has been extremely slow, and the new plan was devised in an effort to correct the situation. It calls for transporting mail to Panama via United Fruit and Holland-American Steamship companies and from there to Europe by British vessels which are scheduled for 2 sailings per week.

British Ships Transporting Meat Along Coast of Brazil

The Brazilian Minister of Finance issued an order on November 25, 1946, authorizing British Royal Mail steamers to transport meat from Rio Grande do Sul to Rio de Janeiro.

Coastwise shipping normally is reserved by Government mandate to Brazilian vessels, but under article 155 of the Constitution, the provision may be waived temporarily. This action was taken because of the insufficient number of Brazilian vessels equipped with refrigerating space and because of the short supply of meat at Rio de Janeiro and the surplus available in Rio Grande do Sul.

New Salvadoran Steamship Line Plies Pacific Coast

Plans were recently announced in the Salvadoran press to inaugurate a new steamship service along the Pacific coast between North, Central, and South America. The new steamship line will operate under the name "Independence Line" (Independence Steamship Co., Inc.), and its general agent is the General Steamship Corp., Ltd., San Francisco, Calif., which has its own piers in San Francisco and maintains branches in Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver.

The Independence Line will operate three modern steamships of 5,000 tons each, with refrigerated space for perishable merchandise.

Government of New Zealand Keeps Close Watch on Roads

The Minister of Works of New Zealand controls the roads and bridges of that country under a number of statutes and amendments. The Main Highways Act of 1922, for example, provided for the declaration of roads as main highways. Thus the control of arterial roads became primarily a national concern.

To administer the act, the Main Highways Board was constituted. This Board, in most cases, delegates its powers of maintenance, control, and the like, to the local authority concerned, but exercises close supervision over the standard of work. Under an amendment to the act passed in 1936, the Board, with the approval of the Minister of Works, may classify any main highway as a "State highway." In this case, the whole cost of maintenance and construction of a highway, with certain exceptions, is met from the Main Highways Account.

Of the 12,398 miles of main highways reported in 1944, 3,990 miles, comprising the principal arterial traffic routes, have been classified as State highways.

Roads which have been declared State highways are under the immediate jurisdiction of the Minister of Works. Control of urban roads and streets is in the hands of city, borough, or town district authorities, while rural roads are handled by County Councils and local Road Boards.

Contributors' Column

Ruth C. Leslie ("Britain Spurs Broad Industrial Research").—Born in Vernon, Tex. Educated in Kentucky. Taught in public schools of that State; engaged in private business; employed in Federal service; traveled through southern and western States in connection with public-school education; entered Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce May 1931; worked in Army Air Forces Redistribution Center and the Navajo Ordnance Depot in Arizona; returned to Bureau, on Commodity Analysis Staff, Office of International Trade, at present in General Products Division.

Paul G. Minneman ("Cuba's Poultry and Eggs: Trade Shows Sharp Shifts").—Born in Sidney, Ohio. Ohio State University, A. B., 1924; M. S., 1926; Ph. D., 1929; University of Breslau, Germany, 1926–27. First Lieutenant, O. R. C. Research assistant 1928 and instructor 1929, Ohio State University; economist, Department of Agriculture, 1929–36; appointed assistant agricultural attaché at London, May 1, 1936; Foreign Service officer of class 4, July 1, 1939; to the Department of State and detailed to the Department of Agriculture, September 15, 1939; consul and secretary in the diplomatic service, November 16, 1939; member, Joint Survey of Cuban Agricultural Resources, Habana, 1941; agricultural attaché at Habana, April 15, 1942, to date.

FAIRS *and* EXHIBITIONS

1947 Lyon International Fair

The rental rates for exhibits at the International Sample Fair at Lyon, France, announced for April 12–21, 1947 (in the November 9 issue of this Weekly), have been fixed as follows:

Individual exhibition rooms: One room, 10,000 francs each (approximately $84); two rooms, 9,500 francs each (approximately $79); three or more rooms, 9,000 francs each (approximately $75); triple room at end of gallery 23,750 francs (approximately $199).

Covered booths: Per square meter, 540 francs (approximately $4.50).

Unroofed outdoor space: Per square meter, 100 francs (approximately 85 cents).

Dimensions of the exhibition rooms: Grand Palais—Front width, 3.50 meters; depth, 4.50 meters. Petit Palais—4 meters by 4 meters.

Booths by the square meter: Minimum area, 12 square meters.

Requests for further details, as well as applications for space, should be addressed without delay to the:

Foire Internationale de Lyon
Rue Menestrier,
Lyon, France.

Office-Equipment Exhibition, London

In mid-October a private exhibition of office equipment—the first of its kind—was held at the Waldorf Hotel, London.

One feature was a showing of two all-steel desks with linoleum or composition tops, the first of that brand produced there. The usual wooden office desks predominated.

American office equipment was represented by reconditioned American typewriters and locally built adding machines. A locally produced public address and call system of an American brand also was shown.

"Britain Can Make It"

More than 15,000 persons are estimated to have attended the opening on September 23 of the "Britain Can Make It" Exhibition, held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Visitors increased to such a degree—averaging 20,000 daily—that its sponsors decided to continue the affair throughout the month.

The 22 sections of the fair covered a broad field, including Heat, Light and Power; Radio; Textiles; Men's, Women's, and Childrens' Clothing; Furniture; Hardware; Packaging; Travel Goods; Carpets; Garden Tools and Sport Goods; Books; and the like. Very artistic presentation was maintained in all exhibits, some of the more popular of which were of china; silverware; packaging (which reportedly showed a distinct American influence); toys; leather articles; and dress goods. The household appliances writers and locally built adding machines, carpet sweepers, and similar equipment, showed distinct American influence. The automotive industry was not represented.

British Export Exhibition

The British Export Exhibition at London, November 12–23, 1946, was privately sponsored. Included in the displays were adhesive plasters, agricultural products, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, arc welding equipment, cigarette lighters, curtain rails, domestic ware, door furniture, electric domestic appliances, electric-light fittings, fancy goods, fancy leather goods, furs, gold and silver ware, hardware, jewelry, kitchen ware, stepladders, perfumery, plastics, radios, sanitary ware, shafting equipment, shoes, steel and wrought iron furniture, surgical equipment, toilet goods, tools, toys and window furniture.

Plastics Exhibit, London

On November 7, the British Plastics Federation opened the British Plastics Exhibition at Dorland Hall in London, for a 3-week period.

Included are some 550 articles made either entirely or partially of plastics, and ranging from a 12-foot rowboat and large dining table to parts of surgical instruments through the range of toys, upholstery material, household equipment, radio cases, garments, sequins and beads, camera cases, shower curtains, and similar items.

Prague Spring Fair

The 45th Prague Spring International Sample Fair has been announced for the period March 14 to 23, 1947. Details will be released, as soon as available, in this Weekly.

Radio Shows, London

The November 30 issue of "Wireless and Electrical Trade" announces an exhibition in the field of radio for October 1–11, 1947, and another by the Radio Components Manufacturers' Association from March 7 to 14, 1947, both in London.

Dutch Industry Enters the Pencil Market

Although the Dutch people before the war bought, and probably used, 35,000,000 pencils each year, there never has been a domestic pencil industry in the Netherlands, and the market had to rely exclusively on import from abroad. Most of this import came from Germany and Japan; in 1939 Germany supplied 58 percent, Japan 14 percent, Switzerland 11 percent, France 5 percent, and other countries 12 percent of Holland's pencil needs.

With both Germany and Japan eliminated for several years to come, not only from Holland's domestic market but from the world market as well, a Netherlands pencil industry has been organized which, with the most modern equipment, will strive to take their place in both the domestic and the export fields. Among the products to be manufactured are wooden and automatic pencils, indelible pencils, and colored pencils.

Graphite, one of the essential basic materials for the pencil industry, can be obtained immediately from Britain which holds large stocks of Ceylon graphite, the most suitable for pencil manufacture. All other ingredients, wherever possible, will be obtained from domestic industries.

The new industry will be equipped with up-to-date American and Swiss machinery. Woodworking equipment will be bought in the United States; Bechler machines for the manufacture of automatic pencils will be ordered in Switzerland.

New Indian Standards Institution

An Indian Standards Institution is to be established by the Government of India and will have headquarters in New Delhi, according to a foreign chemical publication. Its purposes will be similar to those of the British Standards Institution, it is stated.

Annual grants will be made by the Government to the organization for an initial period of 5 years.

Plastics in Australia: Brisk Expansion Seen

(Continued from p. 6)

erection of an expensive high-pressure plant needed for its production.

No vinyl resins are produced in Australia, and these plastics materials must be imported for use in the form of molding powders and for the coating of electrical wire. There is considerable doubt as to whether the latter use will survive the return of natural rubber to the market; if it does not, the estimated quantity required in Australia will be reduced from approximately 750 tons to about 400 tons a year.

ICIANZ (Imperial Chemical Industries of Australia and New Zealand), at Botany, New South Wales, has under consideration the manufacture of polyvinyl chloride and has erected an electrolytic caustic-soda-chlorine plant in Sydney to supply one of the ingredients—hydrochloric acid. Acetylene would be produced from Australian calcium carbide manufactured at Electrona, Tasmania.

Position and Outlook

The current position of the plastics industry in Australia is one of great importance. A partial survey of plastic molders shows employees totaling well over 2,000 and capital exceeding £1,500,000. In addition, the use of plastics in the paint and other surface-coating industries, and also in the manufacture of adhesives and for impregnation of paper, fabric, and wood, provides a considerable amount of employment and requires substantial capital investments.

An estimate of probable annual consumption of plastics materials in Australia made by the Industrial Chemicals Committee of the Ministry of Munitions (figures in long tons) were: Phenolics, 2,500; alkyds, 1,500; ureas, 700; cellulose acetate, 1,000; cellulose nitrate, 600; vinyls, 750; polystyrene, acrylics, and others, 150.

In addition, the foregoing figures represent a large wartime development mainly for governmental use, and little has been done so far to develop peacetime civilian uses for plastics. The tonnages shown in the preceding paragraph may prove to be underestimates rather than overestimates. Wartime developments of plastics in other countries have been large and varied, and their probable future effects on the Australian industry cannot be assessed.

Australian consumers of plastics are in a favorable position to take advantage of newer developments in other parts of the world.

Requirements of phenolics, alkyd, and cellulose nitrate plastics materials are now almost wholly supplied by Australian manufacture. Ureas are manufactured to a smaller extent, but should soon be in the same position as the phenolic materials. The production of cellulose acetate may be undertaken and the manufacture of polyvinyl chloride (the most used of the vinyls) is receiving consideration. Some consideration has been given to the production of lignin, but little attention has been given to the local production of other less-used plastics.

Phenolics and alkyds are manufactured in Australia, and the primary constituents of these resins probably will continue to be available from local sources. Some minor materials used in phenolics may in the future have to be imported. Urea, one of the principal ingredients of urea resins, probably will continue to be imported. If, and when, Australian manufacture of cellulose acetate and vinyl resins materializes, the chemicals used in their manufacture will be largely of domestic origin.

The plastics industry proper comprises the manufacture of molding powders and resins, the production of molded articles, and the production of some commodities in which resins are used. The present position of all these is believed to be sound, and prospects for further development are bright. The main problems of the future are associated with the chemicals used in the manufacture of plastic molding powders and synthetic resins.

TABLE 3.—*Australian Imports of Plastics Materials*

[Values in pounds sterling]

Material and years	Total		United Kingdom		United States	
	Quantity (pounds)	Value	Quantity (pounds)	Value	Quantity (pounds)	Value
	Thermosetting Molding Materials					
Phenolic resins:						
1939–40	2,268,718	108,948	2,100,847	96,891	137,447	10,367
1941–42	1,684,530	99,166	1,520,996	83,594	152,159	14,930
1944–45	647,659	48,788	522,142	39,690	123,155	8,948
Amino resins:						
1939–40	1,018,942	60,155	1,001,292	58,620	17,650	1,535
1941–42	1,037,219	72,372	1,011,755	69,681	25,464	2,691
1944–45	559,054	52,800	480,510	48,988	78,544	3,812
Others:						
1939–40	14,266	243	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1941–42						
1944–45 [2]	161	23			161	23
	Thermoplastic Molding Materials					
Cellulose derivatives: [3]						
1939–40	52,255	7,014	13,413	1,821	35,459	4,997
1941–42	320,072	33,027	52,888	6,341	267,184	26,686
1944–45	61,224	6,543	33,338	4,285	27,886	2,258
Acrylic resins:						
1939–40	1,652	448	404	149	1,248	299
1941–42	87,966	4,455	87,966	4,455		
1944–45						
Others: [4]						
1939–40	14,891	1,871	28	1	8,670	1,009
1941–42	1,230	8,269	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1944–45	988,581	104,748			988,581	104,748
	Other Materials for Further Manufacture					
Cast resins:						
1939–40	92,080	1,729	13,714	740	9,428	620
1941–42	13,374	1,390	13,063	1,269	312	121
1944–45	1,031	(1)			1,031	(1)
Resins for use in paints, enamels, lacquers, and inks:						
1939–40	1,145,312	44,987	484,848	17,680	614,320	25,049
1941–42	193,984	12,477	166,208	8,511	15,120	1,749
1943–44	149,856	8,511	30,352	1,837	111,552	6,258
Celluloid, sheets and strips:						
1939–40	633,417	128,903	64,506	8,624	313,317	96,799
1941–42	652,893	147,708	268,611	50,391	371,981	95,906
1943–44	225,937	77,626	136	50	225,301	77,469
Celluloid, in other forms:						
1939–40	13,455	3,155	2,365	656	2,689	1,011
1941–42	70	107	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1944–45						

[1] Not available.
[2] Alkyd molding materials.
[3] Other than celluloid.
[4] Excludes synthetic rubber and chlorinated rubber.

Most of the chemicals used in the manufacture of plastics materials are imported at low rates of duty, ranging from 10 to 15 percent ad valorem. Australian importations are under licenses which must be obtained by importers in advance of shipment.

No licenses for phenol formaldehyde powders are issued; however, other plastics materials generally may be imported

under "administrative control," indicating that quota restrictions do not apply and that applications for licenses are dealt with individually on their merits by Australian Customs Authorities.

Australia's ability to supply its own manufacturers from domestic production will determine to what extent imports of plastics materials and products from the United States and other countries will be required.

News by COMMODITIES

(Continued from p. 21)

Eight cotton mills, with about 162,300 spindles and nearly 3,000 looms, are located in the State. One mill produces yarn only, four make yarn and piece goods, and three manufacture only piece goods.

Synthetic Fibers and Products

ITALY'S PRODUCTION

Italy's synthetic-fiber factories, centered in the northern part of the country, suffered little damage from the war. All factories are reported to be up to date, equipment having been installed or replaced during 1938 and 1939. Production potentiality, therefore, may be considered equal to prewar, or about 200,000 tons of synthetic fiber annually. Full output, however, is entirely dependent upon sufficient supplies of cellulose and coal.

The industry reached its maximum peak in 1941, with an output of 199,000 tons of various types of synthetic fibers. In 1945 production reached its lowest record at 3,642 tons. Output of synthetic fibers from 1939 to 1945 was as follows:

Italy's Production of Synthetic Fibers, 1939–45

[In tons]

Year	Rayon	Staple fiber and waste	Lanital (casein fibers)	Nylon	Total
1939	54,000	89,000	2,000	.....	145,000
1940	54,000	120,000	3,700	.....	177,700
1941	58,000	137,000	4,000	.....	199,000
1942	54,000	95,000	403	.....	149,000
1943	46,000	50,680	329	50	97,059
1944	18,000	14,000	854	65	32,919
1945	1,500	2,100	.....	42	3,642

The 1946 plan contemplates a monthly output of 1,500 tons of rayon filament and staple fiber, based upon imports of 88,000 kilograms of cellulose from Sweden and additional quantities from Norway and Switzerland.

About 63 percent of the synthetic fibers produced in Italy is absorbed by the domestic weaving industry. Producers reserve 37 percent for direct export.

State Department's Policy Regarding Elimination of Tariff Preferences

This Government's negotiations next spring with 18 other countries for reciprocal reduction of tariff and other trade barriers will include negotiation directed toward elimination of tariff preferences now in effect between the United States and Cuba, as well as preferences in effect among British Empire countries and between other countries, says a statement recently issued by the Department of State.

The existing trade agreement between the United States and Cuba not only provides for specified preferential treatment of products enumerated in the schedules of the agreement but also provides generally that each country will accord preferential treatment to any other products imported from the other country. Tariff preferences accorded under both provisions will come within the scope of the forthcoming negotiations, regardless of whether the products concerned are included in the list of products made public on November 9, 1946, on which the United States will consider granting tariff concessions in the forthcoming negotiations. No United States tariff reductions will be made, however, on any commodity not appearing on a public list.

Wool and Products

OBSTACLES TO RECOVERY OF GREECE'S INDUSTRY

The lack of woolen yarns is the major obstacle to early recovery to prewar level of Greece's woolen industry. Other difficulties include the shortage of spare parts for machinery and lack of skilled labor. Greece was a substantial prewar importer of yarns, and until larger supplies are obtained many looms will remain idle.

SITUATION IN JAPAN'S INDUSTRY

The raw-wool consumption by Japan's woolen industry, during the period February to October 1946 totaled 9,714,000 pounds, and by the worsted branch, 4,111,000 pounds, according to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

Production of all-woolen and mixed yarn in Japan amounted to 16,333,000 pounds and of worsted and mixed yarns, 5,058,000 pounds. The industry plans to produce monthly about 2,000,000 pounds of yarn and concentrate on expansion worsted-yarn outputs.

Woolen- and part-woolen-cloth production amounted to 13,165,000 square yards from February to October 1946, and output of worsted cloth (includes other fibers), 3,642,000 square yards.

Production of all woolen and worsted yarn and cloth has been for domestic consumption, especially for clothing for demobilized soldiers. However, full working capacity of the industry has not been utilized.

The status of plant equipment in the Japanese wool industry in February, June, and October, 1946 was as follows:

[In numbers]

Type and status	1946		
	February	June	October
Wool cards:			
Installed	421	430	417
Operable		373	388
Operating	220	245	270
Worsted spindles:			
Installed	376,464	422,372	n. a.
Operable	n. a.	276,778	316,925
Operating (converted to two-shift basis)	74,344	87,685	125,024
Looms:			
Installed	n. a.	10,834	11,222
Operable	n. a.	9,807	9,982
Operating	n. a.	2,455	3,197

n. a.=not available.

Russia's Vitamized Tea

Vitaminized brick tea is being prepared by the Irkutsk tea factory in the U. S. S. R., according to the Soviet press.

The press item stated that the new product was to be sent to the inhabitants of the extreme North, including the Kolyma region, the Yakut, A. S. S. R., and the Kurile Islands.

During the first 8 months of 1946 Chile exported 3,931 metric tons of hemp. In comparison, 5,489 metric tons were exported in the corresponding period of 1945.

A reforestation project has been started recently in the Department of Solola, Guatemala, under the direction of the Forest Section of the Guatemalan Ministry of Agriculture. Local authorities and land owners have cooperated in the planting of 200,000 trees on the watershed above the town of Panajachel (near the city of Salola) in the area of Lake Atitlan.

Britain Spurs Broad Industrial Research

(Continued from p. 4)

under £100,000 to about £275,000; the actual income raised by industry grew from slightly below £200,000 to about £550,000; the actual grant from D. S. I. R. increased from about £75,000 to approximately £250,000; and total income of the research associations from all sources rose from about £300,000 to more than £900,000.

Although much progress has been made in the cooperative-research movement, the British consider that it is not yet what it should be as an instrument for the benefit of industry. Such research associations have now been formed for the following industries: Iron and steel; nonferrous metals; cast iron; coal; coke; electrical; cotton, silk, and rayon; wool; linen; leather, boot and shoe; cocoa, sugar, chocolate, confectionery and jam trades; flour milling; food processing; laundering; paint, color and varnish; pottery and refractories; printing; rubber; welding; scientific instruments; shipbuilding; gas; internal-combustion engines; and paper. Some activities of the individual associations are discussed briefly in the sections of this article devoted to their respective industries.

A recent development of considerable interest is the movement on the part of several associations who needed new and larger premises near London, to acquire sites on an estate at Leatherhead. The placing of several associations close together works to the mutual advantage of all. Such advantages include the possibility of consultations on problems of common interest, and the pooling of library resources, translation services, lecture hall, social meeting rooms, and other facilities.

The total expenditure of the associations increased from £280,000 in 1934 to more than £500,000 in 1939, while 1945 expenditures on research were estimated at more than £1,000,000. Substantial increases during the postwar years are confidently anticipated.

Several of these associations command very considerable incomes. For example, those of the iron-and-steel, cotton, and electrical industries are well over £100,000 a year, and the more recently established Shipbuilding Research Association is expected to have a similar income. All are aiming at an increased scale of working and hope for larger incomes to enable them to carry out their plans.

Encouraging Research Workers

In carrying out its program of encouragaing research workers, the Advisory Council of the D. S. I. R. has utilized several forms of financial assistance. Its allowances to students for training in research rose from £1,000 in the school year 1917–18 to £23,720 in 1921–22. The number of students aided rose to 252 in 1922–23 and averaged 216 for each of the next 3 years. Since then the number has varied between 116 and 165 in any one year.

Direct help was also given to young research workers of ability by grants enabling them to continue their researches for a time free from the necessity of finding other employment. In 1928–29 these grants were replaced by research fellowships—Senior Research Awards—tenable for 3 years and with a value of £300 a year. The number of awards in any 1 year varies from 10 to 18.

Researches of special timeliness and promise are encouraged at the universities, grants being made to professors and senior lecturers for the purpose of engaging suitable assistants and acquiring essential apparatus. The number of these grants made yearly varies, and most of them continue for at least 2 years. During the 5 years ended with 1939, the number ranged from 50 to 59 each year.

The Council also gives grants extending over a number of years to distinguished men of science to conduct and establish important researches with which they are associated—in fields in which they are acknowledged leaders.

Expenditures of D. S. I. R.

Gross expenditures of the D. S. I. R. for the year 1945–46 were estimated at more than £1,800,000 and receipts at over £400,000. Comparable estimates for the 1946–47 year are £2,700,000 and £320,000. Receipts are mainly from charges for work undertaken for outside bodies and other Government departments, and also include patent fees and sales of small quantities of byproducts produced at the research stations in the course of investigations.

Grants by D. S. I. R. to industrial cooperative research associations in 1946–47 were estimated at £860,600, compared with £423,400 in 1945–46. The increase was brought about by the research associations' enlarged scale of working and the formation of new organizations.

Other Governmental Research

Other Government agencies performing civilian research are:

(1) The Government Chemist (referring both to a Government department and the head of that department); (2) the Medical Research Council; (3) the Agricultural Research Council; and (4) the General Post Office.

Besides the research done for civilian purposes, the Fighting Forces also have their own research organizations for defense.

The Admiralty Research Laboratory is at Teddington and is staffed wholly by civilians. Its Director is responsible for the general direction and organization of research work for naval purposes and also for bringing about close association of civilian scientists with the research and development work undertaken by the other technical departments of the Admiralty. A Royal Naval Scientific Service, to be staffed by those now forming the administrative, scientific, technical, and chemical pools working under the Director of Scientific Research, was recently announced.

Responsibility for research and development in the Ministry of Supply is vested in three senior officials—the Controller General of Munitions Production, the Senior Supply Officer, and the Chairman of the Armored Fighting Vehicles Division. Numerous divisions, committees and subcommittees collaborate with each other and also with the D. S. I. R. and other Government departments.

Research with respect to aeronautics is conducted by the Aeronautical Research Committee established under the Air Ministry after the first World War. Its members are the directors of scientific research at the Air Ministry, the Admiralty, and the War Office, as well as a representative of D. S. I. R. Collaboration with the Royal Aircraft Factory (now the Royal Aircraft Establishment) has continued throughout the years.

Research by Industry

Realizing that the war has resulted in a world-wide increase in industrialization and that the great basic industries of the country are consequently in some danger of losing their export markets, British industry is being urged to change from a nation of mere manufacturers and become a nation of *creators*—of new goods, new processes, and new industries—to adopt as its slogan not merely "Britain Delivers the Goods" but also "Britain Creates the Goods."

This, it is contended, can be done only through research—fundamental research in the universities, applied research by industry.

Recent surveys disclose that in British industry there are some 9,000 graduates engaged in research and development and that approximately £20,000,000 is ex-

pended annually on research. The surveys also showed that the industries covered propose to extend their research staffs by 25 percent, and to increase vastly their laboratory space during the next 2 years.

A minimum demand for 70,000 scientists in 1950 for the United Kingdom and the Colonial services is envisaged by the Committee on Scientific Manpower appointed in December 1945 by the Lord President of the Privy Council. The Committee hopes that this is an underestimate and feels justified in the assumption that 90,000 will be needed in 1955. Based on the present situation, however, the most that can be anticipated at that date will be 64,000, if expansion is limited to that indicated in the returns furnished to the universities by the University Grants Committee. The Manpower Committee's suggestion for making up the deficit is that each university double its output of scientists. Repair of those collegiate institutions which suffered severely during the war is also urged. Similar measures are recommended to provide the corresponding increase in the reserve of technologists.

One Type Lacking

A type of research which has not been perfected in Great Britain to the extent that it is carried out in America but which is very much desired in that country—by authorities in Government, science, and industry—is that which is typified in the United States by such institutions as the Mellon Institute, and, on a more modest scale, by the Maison de la Chimie in Paris.

The Mellon Institute—a public institution to which industrialists may bring their problems for solution, in apparatus of at least pilot-plant size, on moderate financial terms, and to which an inventor may take his process for development from the very small scale to the larger scale—is looked upon in Great Britain as a pattern well worthy of being followed by British industry.

These data clearly indicate that British industry is fully alive to the value of research. A two-day Conference on Industry and Research, held at London in March 1946, by the Federation of British Industries (F. B. I.), was attended by more than 1,400 delegates from all parts of the country. The Conference was designed to put before industry the need for research.

The importance of maintaining the close collaboration between science and industry which was established in wartime, in order that the continued development of the country might be assured, was strongly stressed. A series of resolutions adopted urged every industrial concern to make the greatest possible use of scientific knowledge directly it becomes available, in order to maintain technical preeminence in design, quality, and production; to engage a qualified official or officials with the specific duty of following general scientific and technical developments and literature; and to join (and make the fullest use of) its appropriate research association, and, where practicable, to establish its own research department.

Two further resolutions were carried. One of these was that an essential factor in pursuing these aims is the provision of increased facilities in educational establishments for training scientific and technical personnel, and urged industrialists to stimulate such provision in their own field of interest. The other urged the Government to give the highest priority to the provision of essential buildings and personnel for research.

Chemical Research

It is well known that in huge industrial organizations research is being continually carried on in large well-equipped laboratories. A few examples of organized research as conducted by some of the leading industries follow.

Perhaps the most outstanding example of this in Great Britain is the work of the Imperial Chemical Industries (I. C. I.) which is the largest industrial corporation in that country. Indeed, the phenomenal growth of this organization has been brought about largely by the need of organized research on an ever-increasing scale. The I. C. I. was formed in 1927 by the merger of four large companies, each a leader in its respective chemical field. During the period 1927–42 the expenditure of the company on research and development amounted to approximately £62,000,000. In 1943 the amount thus spent totaled £2,200,000, and the 1946 budget earmarks £3,350,000 for such purposes.

Postwar plans of I. C. I. include expansion of its dyestuffs branch, £1,000,000 being allocated to widening its research and testing facilities. The present technical staff of 1,500, of whom 500 are qualified chemists, will be increased at least 50 percent in the next 3 years.

The I. C. I. also plans to establish several new laboratories and enlarge others at various points within Great Britain. Along with the increase in facilities and personnel, corresponding increases of technical equipment will be required for the practice of organic chemistry, textile, rubber and resin technology, physics, biology, metallurgy, and chemical engineering. Some of the new laboratories will also be concerned with the design of industrial instruments and industrial toxicology.

In addition to the research carried on in its own laboratories, I. C. I. furnishes assistance to research conducted in universities (as do other industrial organizations.) In May 1945, for example, I. C. I. announced the establishment of a system of 80 Research Fellowships in nine universities. The sum of £48,000 per year was set aside to provide research facilities in universities in Britain during 1946. It was stated that there were 900 full-time research "back-room boys" at work for the company.

Advances in Metallurgy

Phenomenal progress was made in metallurgy during the war as well as in the prewar period. The importance of scientific and technical education, particularly in metallurgy, to Britain's iron-and-steel and nonferrous-metals industries is clearly recognized. There was recently formed a Joint Committee on Metallurgical Education by the Councils of five of the leading national metallurgical institutes—the Iron and Steel Institute, the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, the Institute of British Foundrymen, the Institute of Metals, and the Institution of Metallurgists. The Committee will advise and coordinate the policy of the Councils of these institutions on all matters concerning education in metallurgy.

The British Iron and Steel Research Association, formed in 1945, as a new central research association for the British steel industry, will take over the work of the Iron and Steel Industrial Research Council. The organization will receive up to £250,000 a year from the Federation, and its total revenue will be around £400,000 a year. The research centers of the industry will work in connection with those of the universities and Government organizations. Teams will work in Sheffield, Cambridge, Swansea, Glasgow, London, Birmingham, and New Castle.

A gift of £50,000 recently offered to the five metallurgical institutes by the Mond Nickel Co. will be sufficient for at least five substantial fellowships annually for the next 15 years. It will be used to provide opportunities to study the industry in other countries, for training in administration, or for the study of industrial economics, or some other aspect of business or industry.

The British Cast Iron Research Association, which has been in operation for 24 years, was considerably expanded during the war and its income substantially augmented. Much special work was done for the Government departments. The

BCIRA also has continued its work on standardization, particularly through the British Standards Institution. Because of the scattered nature of the iron founding and moulding industries and the existence of a large number of small units, much of the research work is conducted by BCIRA.

The British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association is one of the most successful of the cooperative research associations. Its membership is about 350, and its total income is approximately £43,000. The association hopes shortly to be operating on an annual budget of about £100,000.

Basis of Electrical Industry

Perhaps more than any other, the electrical industry has been based upon scientific research and invention. Among many outstanding examples which may be mentioned is electro-magnetic induction. Although more than 50 years elapsed before commercial use was made of this discovery, great strides have been made during the last 20 years in such fields as the application of physics and chemistry to the high-voltage electric cable.

The British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association is now one of the three largest such associations in the country. It is supported by manufacturing firms, but of late years about two-thirds of its industrial income has come from supply firms because of the great benefit of electrical research to such companies. One example is the research on buried cables which was conducted over a period of years at the N. P. L. (now one of the stations of the D. S. I. R.) at a cost of only £80,000 and which increased by at least £4,000,000 the value of the cables laid in the ground. The association serves as the principal medium for the coordination of research in a very wide field. Starting from modest beginnings, its annual expenditure for research now exceeds £100,000, and the staff numbers more than 200. The great electrical firms are strong supporters of the association, despite their own extensive research laboratories.

Recently the establishment of an Electrical Research Board was proposed by the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and a similar proposal was made by the Institution of Radio Engineers.

Textile Research

Textiles represent a major section of British industry, but the textile industries receive no assistance from governmental research. While one or two universities have important textile departments and conduct research of a fundamental character on textile fibers, the industry as a whole is dependent almost entirely upon its own endeavors and those of its several research associations—which were formed in each main branch of the industry during or shortly after the first World War.

The Textile Institute is the recognized professional body of the textile industry, its main object being to advance the general interests of the industry, more particularly in regard to the application thereto of scientific knowledge, and to promote the profession and practice of textile technology. It is unique in that it provides a neutral meeting ground for all types of men and women connected with the many aspects of textiles.

The Wool Industries Research Association is supported by grants from the D. S. I. R., voluntary contributions from members of the industry, and by contributions from the three wool-producing Dominions—Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, as well as from the International Wool Publicity and Research Secretariat. The Secretariat represents the interests of the three Dominions and is financed by statutory levies on all wool exported from those countries. In 1943, the income of the research association was £38,633, of which about £9,450 was contributed by the Dominions.

The British Cotton Industry Research Association includes rayon and silk in its research investigations. The present staff numbers more than 350, about one-fourth of whom are university graduates.

Expenditures of the Cotton Research Association in 1939 were estimated at about £80,000 on cotton alone. The Association has ambitious plans for the future, including extension of the Liaison Department, new personnel in the finishing section, a number of Shirley Scholarships (research work of the association is conducted at Shirley Institute), new facilities, machinery, better housing for the equipment, and a chemical-engineering department. A new grant from D. S. I. R. in August 1945 provided for a minimum of £30,000 a year for 5 years, on terms which in the event of an industrial income of £120,000 makes possible an annual grant of £80,000.

Among other organizations either supporting or conducting research in connection with cotton is the Cotton Board, which is supported by a levy on the industry and which has research as one of its objects; in practice the Board makes these funds available to the research association. The Empire Cotton Growing Corporation maintains a number of Agricultural Experiment Stations in conjunction with the governments of most of the cotton-growing countries of the Empire. The information is pooled for the benefit of all the stations.

The Linen Industry Research Association, registered in 1919, now has 25 members representing the various trade associations, the Government departments concerned ,and educational bodies. The Research Institute is at Lambeg, Northern Ireland, where the work covers the whole field from the propagation of the seed to the complete production of the finished goods, including study of byproducts and waste. The Association is supported by the linen trade in Northern Ireland, Scotland, and England, by the D. S. I. R. and the Northern Ireland Government.

The Linen Industry Postwar Planning Committee, appointed to consider problems likely to confront the linen industry in Northern Ireland and advise as to steps to be taken to meet them, presented its report in March 1944. Problems enumerated include research and technical education. The Committee recommended a unified control of research to avoid overlapping and duplication. The Committee visualizes an expenditure on research rising to £50,000—excluding work now done by the Ministry of Supply and the Flax Development Committee on tank retteries—compared with the present sum of £29,300. It is proposed that the linen industry might increase its contribution to £25,000, and it is believed that substantial contributions will be forthcoming from both the D. S. I. R. and the Northern Ireland Government.

Cooperative-research associations have not been formed in Great Britain for jute, hemp, ramie, or sisal. Jute research has been conducted by two organizations largely centered in Calcutta, India. The linen research association includes the study of hemp and ramie, since these two fibers are spun on flax machinery. Sisal, however, requires special machinery to prepare it for spinning, and much research is needed to improve the preparation of the raw fiber at the place of cultivation.

A grant of £60,000 has been made to the University of Leeds by Courtauds Ltd. for the establishment of a Rayon Division in the school's Department of Textile Industries. This is the second gift from a fund of £500,000 set aside by the company for further scientific and technological knowledge of rayon. The first gift of £125,000 was made in 1945 to the Imperial College of Science and Technology of the University of London for extending its facilities for teaching chemical engineering as applied to the rayon industry.

In Other British Industries

Industrial research is being conducted in practically every industry of Great

Britain in much the same manner—albeit in varying degrees—as in those fields which have been briefly discussed in this article. Space limitations, however, make it impractical to attempt here the inclusion of further details. It is the consensus that Britain's industrial efficiency and progress depend on the maintenance of close collaboration between science and industry. The wide public acceptance of this view is largely due to the recognition of the part science has played in war and the belief that, if the facilities and resources for both fundamental and applied research are adequate, British industry is ready to use the fruits of this research for peacetime purposes as well.

Cuba's Poultry and Eggs: Trade Shows Sharp Shifts

(Continued from p. 7)

available at from 2.5 to 5 cents per pound. No other grain is grown in Cuba except a little grain sorghum, which is used by some small farmers, and is on the market for a few months of the year at 3 cents per pound. When available, the larger poultrymen near Habana use some imported wheat, but that also has been scarce and high-priced, at about 5.6 cents per pound. Domestic tankage is sold at about 3 cents per pound. Imported growing mash, starter, and scratch feed cost from 5.5 to 7.5 cents per pound in Habana; and laying mash, about 4.8 cents.

Production of eggs in Cuba is estimated at roughly 327,000,000 a year. Annual production per hen in farm flocks probably has not increased much since 1931 when, according to the Census, it was 74 eggs per hen. However, egg production in the dozen modern poultry farms is much higher. Egg production in the United States in 1945 averaged 118 eggs per hen.

Only small quantities of eggs are put into cold storage in Cuba. The only two refrigerated warehouses in Habana that handle eggs indicate that the yearly storage varies from 8,000 to 20,000 cases, usually held from early spring until August.

Consumption of eggs in Cuba in 1945 was only about 47 eggs per capita, as compared with about 383.3 in the United States. Consumption of eggs in Cuba is much smaller in summer than in winter, not only because of reduced production, but also because of the popular belief that it is not conducive to good health to eat many eggs during the hot weather.

Prior to the war, eggs sold in Habana during most of the year at 15 to 25 cents a dozen. In late 1942 prices began to rise, and following the hurricane in late 1944 reached 80 cents to $1 a dozen. Prices in June 1946 averaged 73.4 cents a dozen. Prices usually are lowest from February to October and highest from November to January. At first glance this appears to be inconsistent with seasonal production, but it is influenced largely by reduced consumer demand during the summer months.

Imports: Live Poultry, Meat

Imports of live poultry and poultry meat have never been large. Table 2 shows imports of these commodities during the past 20 years.

Latin American Exchange Rates

NOTE.—Averages are based on actual selling rates for sight drafts on New York, in units of foreign currency per dollar, with the following exception: Cuba-United States dollar to the peso. The peso of the Dominican Republic, the Guatemalan quetzal, and the Panamanian balboa are linked to the dollar at 1 to 1; the Haitian gourde is fixed at 5 gourdes to a dollar.

Country	Unit quoted	Type of exchange	Average rate			Latest available quotation		
			1944 (annual)	1945 (annual)	November 1946 (monthly)	Rate	Approximate equivalent in U. S. currency	Date
Argentina	Paper peso	Preferential	3.73	3.73	3.73	3.73	$0.2681	Dec. 14, 1946
		Ordinary	4.23	4.23	4.23	4.23	.2364	Do.
		Auction	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	.2024	Do.
		Free market	4.03	4.04	4.10	4.11	.2433	Dec. 12, 1946
Bolivia	Boliviano	Controlled	42.42	42.42	42.42	42.42	.0236	Dec. 14, 1946
		Curb	51.80	59.96	*57.00	57.00	.0175	Oct. 31, 1946
Brazil	Cruzeiro [1]	Official	16.50	16.50	(2)	(2)		
		Free market	19.57	19.50	18.72	[2] 18.72	.0534	Dec. 14, 1946
		Special free market	20.20	20.00	(2)	(2)		
Chile	Peso	Special	19.37	19.37	19.37	19.37	.0516	Dec. 23, 1946
		Export draft	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	.0400	Do.
		Free market	31.85	32.24	37.94	39.10	.0256	Do.
		"D. P." [4]	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	.0323	Do.
Colombia	do	Commercial bank	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.746	.5727	Dec. 14, 1946
		Bank of Republic	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.755	.5698	Do.
		Curb	1.75	1.83	*1.835	1.835	.5450	Aug. 31, 1946
Costa Rica	Colon	Uncontrolled	5.66	5.68	5.98	5.98	.1672	Nov. 30, 1946
		Controlled	5.62	5.62	5.62	5.67	.1764	Dec. 14, 1946
Cuba	Peso	Free	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.0000	Do.
Ecuador	Sucre	Central bank (Off.)	14.06	13.77	15.04	[5] 15.04	.0665	Do.
Honduras	Lempira	Official	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	.4902	Do.
Mexico	Peso	Free	4.85	4.86	4.86	4.86	.2058	Do.
Nicaragua	Cordoba	Official	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	.2000	Do.
		Curb	5.72	6.62	5.36	5.35	.1869	Dec. 7, 1946
Paraguay	Guarani [6]	Official	3.11	3.12	3.12	3.12	.3205	Dec. 14, 1946
		Free [7]		3.41	3.13	3.12	.3205	Do.
Peru	Sol	do	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	.1538	Do.
Salvador	Colon	do	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	.4000	Do.
Uruguay	Peso	Controlled	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Do.
		Free:						
		Imports	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Do.
		Other purposes [8]	1.85	1.83	1.785	1.785	.5602	Do.
Venezuela	Bolivar	Controlled	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Do.
		Free	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Do.

[1] Under law of Oct. 6, 1942, the cruzeiro became the unit of currency, replacing the milreis. Since November 1942, exchange quotations have been in terms of cruzeiros and centavos to the dollar.
[2] Official market rate abolished July 22, 1946. The selling rate in the free market, which was reduced to 19.53 cruzeiros per dollar on the same date, was further reduced on July 30, 1946, to 18.96 cruzeiros per dollar as the result of a decree-law, published July 27, 1946, eliminating the 3 percent tax on exchange sales imposed by decree-law No. 9025 of Feb. 27, 1946, which tax had been included in the free-market selling rate since Feb. 28, 1946. On Aug. 19, 1946, the selling rate in the free market was again reduced, this time to 18.72 cruzeiros per dollar.
[3] Special free market abolished by decree-law No. 9025, effective Feb. 28, 1946.
[4] Disponibilidades propias (private funds).
[5] A decree of Nov. 18, 1944, fixed basic central bank buying and selling rates at 13.40 and 13.50 sucres to the dollar, respectively, but the imposition at the same time of a 2 percent charge on all exchange transactions resulted in effective buying and selling rates of 13.132 and 13.77. Beginning Feb. 16, 1946, an additional tax of 2 percent was imposed on exchange sales, thus causing an increase in the effective selling rate for dollars from 13.77 to 14.04. On May 6, 1946, an additional tax of 1 sucre per dollar was imposed on most exchange sales, causing an increase in the effective selling rate for dollars from 14.04 to 15.04.
[6] New currency unit instituted as of Nov. 8, 1943.
[7] Established Dec. 4, 1945.
[8] In effect since July 25, 1944.
*Colombia, curb market rate for August; Bolivia, curb rate, for October.

NOTE.—Special rates apply to automotive equipment and agricultural machinery imported from the United States in Argentina.

TABLE 2.—*Imports of Live Poultry and Poultry Meat Into Chile, 1925–45*

Year	Quantity of live poultry		Quantity of meat	
	Breeding	Other	Chilled [1]	Canned
	Number	*Kilograms* [2]	*Kilograms* [2]	*Kilograms* [2]
Average:				
1925–29	2,107	2,839	41,320	[3] 4,000
1930–34	136	912	5,168	1,646
1935–39	73	4,107	1,269	755
Annual:				
1940	23	5,768	2,515	1,226
1941	3	3,998	1,172	229
1942	0	1,160	63	1,119
1943	457	3,157	0	371
1944	22	4,106	109	1,189
1945	186	8,536	51	4,136

[1] Fresh, chilled, or frozen.
[2] 1 kilogram=2.2046 pounds.
[3] Approximate.
SOURCE: Official Foreign-trade statistics.

In the first 9 months of 1946 the United States exported to Cuba 19,281 pounds of live poultry; 31,357 pounds of poultry and game, fresh or frozen; and 1,428 pounds of canned chicken.

Consumption may be estimated at about 18,000,000 fowls a year, or nearly 4 per capita.

Live poultry prices before the war averaged 15 to 20 cents a pound in Habana. In 1939, average retail price was 19.1 cents, by 1945 it was quoted at 64.1 cents, and during the first 6 months of 1946 at 68.4 cents a pound.

Commercial Production

Cuba exported very few fowls and no eggs prior to 1939 when 6,120 eggs were shipped to Panama and Puerto Rico. In 1943, about 124,000 eggs were exported, but there were no shipments in 1945. Since 1941 practically all exports of eggs went to the United States Naval Station in Guantanamo, Cuba.

Some further expansion of the commercial production of poultry in Cuba is expected in the near future.

An increase in the demand for imported incubators, brooders, and minor poultry equipment has been noted. One Cuban manufacturer is now producing electric incubators with a capacity of from 75 to 300 eggs each, and some of the larger poultry firms use improvised electric brooders.

New World Trade Leads

(Continued from p. 9)

products: Sulfathiazol, 5 tons; velsicol 1068, 5 tons; DDT powder 100 percent, 2 tons; choline chloride, 500 kilograms; propionic acid, 3 tons; mandelic acid, 2 tons; aminoacetic acid, 1 ton.

30. *France*—D. Mackain & Cie., 33 rue de Ponthieu, Paris, request purchase quotations on an *insecticide* known in France as Acide 4 Chloro 2 Methylphenoxy *acetique*, and *coumaron resins, synthetic resins* (especially phthalic and maleic anhydride resins) *lead* and *zinc chromate* and *fast pigments* such as helio reds.

Revised World Trade Directory report being prepared.

31. *France*—S. A. R. L. Aviax, 35 Quai St. Vincent, Lyon, Rhone, request purchase quotations on the following articles for *air travel:* 20,000 *dressing cases;* 20,000 *plastic raincoats;* 10,000 *valises;* 20,000 *plastic slippers.*

32. *France*—Société Industrielle des Peintures & Vernis Français, Bonnabaud & Cie, route de Lyon, Le Coteau, Roanne, Loire, request purchase quotations on the following first-grade products used in the manufacture of *paints* and *varnishes:* 40 tons of *zinc oxide;* 40 tons of *lithopone;* and 5,000 liters of *oil varnish.*

33. *France*—Specialités Alimentaires Bourguignonnes, 48 quai Nicolas Rollin, Dijon. Cote d'Or, request purchase quotations on 200 tons of first-grade *mustard seeds.*

34. *France*—Usine Métallurgique Doloise, Avenue de la Begude, Dole, Jura, request purchase quotations on from 10 to 15 tons of *bakelite powder* per year.

35. *Italy*—Mario Marchi, 101 Via Alfani, Florence, request purchase quotations on rods, plates and wire, carbon and alloy *steel.*

36. *Mexico*—Francisco Salazar O., Av. 30 Norte # 1408, Puebla, Pue., request purchase quotations on professional *apparatus* of high precision and efficiency *for the detecting of metals underground.*

New Books and Reports

★The following publications, added to the Department's research facilities, through the courtesy of the authors and publishers, are listed as a service to businessmen. *Please note:* The Department has no copies of private publications for distribution and cannot be responsible for their content. For private publications, write direct to the publishing agency given in each case.

Articles of interest to businessmen, appearing in the Department of State Bulletin.

Copies of this publication, which is issued weekly by the Department of State, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., for the price of 15 cents each; subscription price, $5 per year. The issue of January 5 contains these articles:

AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH CHINA.

MEETING OF SPECIAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON RELIEF NEEDS.

UNITED STATES AND ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF EUROPE by Harold Cleveland.

MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

COLOMBIA SIGNS ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK.

MEETING OF ILO PETROLEUM COMMITTEE.

MEETING OF GOVERNING BODY OF ILO.

TWELFTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE AND SECOND PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON HEALTH EDUCATION.

UNITED STATES-POLISH AGREEMENT ON COMPENSATION CLAIMS.

CLARIFICATION OF UNITED STATES POSITION ON ANTARCTIC CLAIMS.

AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH PERU.

LEND-LEASE OPERATIONS: TWENTY-THIRD REPORT. President's Letter of Transmittal.

Other Publications

THE SOVIET IMPACT ON THE WESTERN WORLD. Edward Hallett Carr. 1946. 113 pp. Price, $1.75. A study of the Soviet system and its influence on the world. *Available from:* The Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

UKERS' INTERNATIONAL TEA AND COFFEE BUYERS' GUIDE. (Thirteenth Edition.) 1946. 312 pp. Price, $2.50. A work of references and an index to sources of supply for buyers in the tea, coffee, spice, and kindred trades.

Available from: The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal Co., 79 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y.

THE STRANGE ALLIANCE. John R. Deane. 1947. 344 pp. Price, $3.75. The author's story of our efforts at wartime cooperation with Russia.

Available from: The Viking Press, 18 East Forty-eighth Street, New York, N. Y.

WORLD ORGANIZATION. (Seventh revised edition.) 1946. 28 pp. Price, 10 cents. An annotated bibliography of books, documents, agencies and other information on international subjects.

Available from: Woodrow Wilson Memorial Library, 45 East Sixty-fifth Street, New York 21, N. Y.

INDUSTRIALIZATION OF LATIN AMERICA. Edited by Lloyd J. Hughlett. 1946. 508 pp. Price, $5. A well-organized, useful presentation of what is happening industrially in the republics to the South. A tremendous amount of factual material has been condensed, interpreted, and evaluated to make the book of practical service to the businessman. The data are comprehensive, but do not overburden the reader with unnecessary detail. Sufficient background is given, however, to present a clear picture of conditions in a country or industry. Seventeen industries are covered, the chapters being written by experts in the various fields. Those on economic backgrounds and Latin American industrialization in relation to foreign trade deal with the general economy. The more than 120 photographs, charts, and maps add interest. C. C. Concannon, Chief of the Chemical and Drug Division of the Department of Commerce, is one of the authors of the chapter on the chemical industry. Material was supplied by the Department for the chapter on the pulp, paper, and lumber industry.

Available from: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 330 West 42d Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Agency Opportunities

37. *Belgium*—Techmaco, 143 rue Planckenberg, Deurne, seek representation for *metal* and *wood-working machinery.*

38. *Brazil*—Frisbee, Freire & Cia., Ltda, Rua Teófilo Otoni 34, seek representation for *Diesel engines* from 5 hp. up to 25 hp. for marine use.

39. *England*—British Industrial Films, Ltd., 183 Kings Road, Chelsea, London, S. W. 3, seek representation for producers of *film strips*, and *projectors*.

40. *England*—Emsa Works and Herbert Foot Appliance, Ltd., Paterson Street, Blackburn, Lancs., seek representation for *surgical foot arch supports, hose savers, heel grips, stocking protectors, insoles, heel pads*, and *rubber brushes*.

41. *England*—Imperial Import and Export Agency, 46 Hamlet Gardens, Ravenscourt Park, London W. 6., seek representation for *nickel* and *chromium-plated hairdressers' equipment*, such as shampoo bottles, sprays, and pin trays.

42. *England*—E. Parsons and Sons, Blackfriars, St. James, Bristol 2, seek representation for good quality *paint brushes* of all types.

43. *England*—Percenta, Ltd., 130/132 Tooley Street, London, S. E. 1., seek representation for *glass bottles* and *jars* for cosmetics and *collapsible tubes* for tooth paste and shaving cream.

44. *England*—Warings from London Wall, Ltd., 74 Church Road, Leyton, London, E. 10, seek representation for *lingerie*.

45. *France*—Joseph Riboud & Cie., 8 rue Aime Berey, Grenoble, Isere, seek representation for *tools* such as drills, taps, dies, and saws.

46. *Italy*—Adams & Co., Ltd., 32 Via Romana, Florence, seek representation for high-quality *textile goods* by the bolt suitable for fabrication into men's suits.

47. *Italy*—Mario Marchi, 101 Via Alfani, Florence, seek representation for *silicon carbide* and *graphite crucibles*.

Trade Lists Available

The Commercial Intelligence Division has recently compiled the following trade lists of which mimeographed copies may be obtained by American firms from this Division. The price is $1 a list for each country.

Alcoholic Beverages Importers and Dealers—Guatemala; Nicaragua.

Alcoholic Beverages Manufacturers—Brazil.

Clothing Manufacturers—Argentina.

Department Stores—Venezuela.

Electrical Supplies and Equipment Importers and Dealers—Bahamas.

Furniture Manufacturers—Venezuela.

Jewelry Importers and Dealers—Argentina; Bahamas; Colombia; Guatemala.

Medicinal and Toilet Preparations Importers and Dealers—Australia.

Office Supplies and Equipment Importers and Dealers—Bermuda; British Guiana; Iraq.

Provisions Importers and Dealers—Brazil.

The Treibacher Chemische firm, in Austria, is experimenting with the production of sodium bichromate and potassium bichromate, according to the foreign press. Laboratory results have been satisfactory, and if plant facilities also meet requirements, production on a commercial scale could be started. The company is also experimenting with waterglass and has delivered a quantity to a molybdenum flotation plant.

Reparations Developments

The Inter-Allied Reparation Agency, in Brussels, has announced that an additional list of four German industrial plants will be considered for allocation among the Western Allied Nations in the near future, according to information received by the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce.

Included in the list are industrial plants of the following categories: Ball and roller bearings, armaments, aircraft and parts, and machine tools.

All four plants were included in the group of "advance reparations" plants and were previously announced by the Office of International Trade as officially approved for reparation by the Allied Control Council and allocated to the Inter-Allied Reparation Agency.

Business firms and persons are invited to indicate any interest which they may have in the purchase of any of these plants in the event that they should be allocated to the reparation account of the United States. Such expressions of interest should be addressed to the Reparations Staff, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C., and should be received by February 7, 1947. An expression of interest does not constitute a commitment to purchase.

Inquirers should submit data justifying their request and should state whether they would intend to purchase a plant for transfer to the United States or to a third country. Where the inquiry relates to transfer to the United States, inquirers should include a statement indicating: (1) the need for such facilities in the United States; (2) the availability or nonavailability of comparable facilities in the domestic market; (3) the industrial use to which the facilities would be put.

Where the inquiry relates to transfer to a third country, inquirers should give as much data as possible with reference to: (1) city and country to which transfer would be made; (2) whether it would be used and operated by nationals of the United States in such foreign location; (3) any further information to justify the request.

Official announcement has not yet been made with respect to the sales procedure, prices, terms, and other matters pertaining to the disposal of such plants as may be allocated to the United States.

The four plants awaiting allocation are:

Kugel Fischer Georg Schaefer and Co., Schweinfurt, Main, Bavaria, and dispersals at Cannstadt and Erkner, Plant No. 1.—Principal products: Ball bearings, roller bearings and parts thereof, specializing in smaller-size bearings. Most of machines are special types peculiar to the industry. One-half of this plant is available for allocation to the Western Nations, the other half having been allocated to the Soviet Union.

Salzwerk Riedel Underground Factory, Burgdorf-Lehre, Plant No. 1027.—Principal products: Mortar bomb filling assembly. Filled approximately 300,000 per week before end of war; employed 800 workers. Located in abandoned salt mine. Only the general-purpose equipment is available for allocation.

Suddeutsche Dornierwerke, Konstanz, Plant No. 2011.—Principal products: Parts for planes, including complete wings. Manufactured airplane parts for Dornier B O 215 or 355 and wing assemblies. Equipment included presses, pneumatic hammers, and miscellaneous machines.

H. Stoll & Co., Reutlingen, Wuerttemberg-Baden, Plant No. 2017.—Principal products: Machine tools, including flat bar knitting machines. Employed 615 workers in 1940; in 1944 employed 42. Bomb damage apparently reduced capacity.

The Sociedad Chilena de Fertilizantes, Ltd., has recommenced guano operations in Mejillones. Approximately $100,000 is being invested in an aerial tramway and modern equipment, which, it is estimated, will permit the production of 100 metric tons of guano per day. At this rate, deposits are expected to last for 15 years.

A Ural machine-building plant is reported by the Soviet press to be making 3-cubic-meter electric-powered excavators which are the first to be made in the U. S. S. R. While the output in 1946 may total only 10 units, future production is expected to reach 100 a year.

The Hongkong Government recently reported a rapid increase of population in that city where Chinese residents total 1,500,000. The Hongkong Government has requested the Chinese members of the legislative and executive councils to discuss with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, labor organizations, and guilds in Hongkong so that plans may be formulated for unemployed Chinese to return to their home towns where they may resume their prewar occupations.

Imports of wood pulp into Portugal totaled 18,400 short tons during 1945, compared with 14,300 tons during 1939.

U. S. Export Control and Related Announcements

(Developments communicated to Exporters' Service Section up to Monday, January 6, 1947).

The Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce has issued the following Current Export Bulletin:

No. 387—*Current Export Bulletin No. 387, January 2, 1947.*

I. *Further Automatic Extension of Export Licenses*

A. From time to time the Office of International Trade has extended the validity period of export licenses in order to permit exporters to complete delayed shipments of commodities and to relieve the congested ports and warehouses resulting from the maritime and other transportation disturbances.

B. As a further step toward relieving the congestion at Pacific Coast ports, the validity period of all export licenses (except licenses to export coal, Schedule B Nos. 500100 and 500200) which expire in the period January 2 to January 15, 1947, is extended through January 16, 1947, provided exportations thereunder are to go forward by water from ports on the West Coast of the United States or Hawaii.

C. Current Export Bulletin No. 383, Subject I, is amended accordingly. (See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY, December 14, 1946.)

II. *Exportations of Women's and Children's Nylon Hosiery*

A. Current Export Bulletin No. 384 announced the removal of women's and children's nylon hosiery (Schedule B Nos. 385410 and 385900) from the Positive List of Commodities. (See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY, December 21, 1946.)

B. Effective immediately, therefore, the Limited Distribution License (LDL) procedure set forth in Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 22, page 51, Section II, Part 5, Title B, is no longer applicable and is discontinued. However, holders of valid Limited Distribution Licenses authorizing shipment of nylon hosiery to Group E countries may continue to export against such licenses until the full amount licensed for export to those countries has been shipped, or until the validity period of the license has expired, whichever is sooner. Exporters should note that only the amounts specifically authorized for export to Group E countries may be shipped to these areas against such licenses.

C. Applications for Limited Distribution Licenses to export nylon hosiery to Group E countries which have been received in the Office of International Trade will be processed as such. However, since December 15, 1946, was the deadline date for submitting applications for the first calendar quarter of 1947, applications for Limited Distribution Licenses postmarked after that date will not be processed but will be returned without action to the applicant. Thereafter, individual licenses will be processed upon application, for exporters desiring to ship nylon hosiery to Group E countries. Applications for individual licenses should be submitted on form IT 419 in accordance with the customary procedure.

D. Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 22, page 51, Section II, Part 5, Title B, is amended accordingly.

III. *Gift Shipments to Prisoners of War in Custody of Great Britain*

A. The Office of International Trade, in concurrence with the Department of State and the Post Office Department, announces that nonperishable foodstuffs may be included in gift parcels sent to prisoners of war held in custody of Great Britain.

B. Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 22, Title T, item 3, page 34, paragraph b (2) is ended, therefore, to read as follows:

Permissible contents.—The commodities which may be included in such gift parcels are restricted to: nonperishable foodstuffs, clothing, soaps and shaving preparations, medicinals and vitamins, and similar items of a relief nature. Parcels must not contain writing or printed matter of any kind.

IV. *Revisions in the postive list*

Deletions. Effective immediately, the following commodities are removed from the Positive List of Commodities requiring validated licenses for export and placed on general license for exportation to all Group K destinations.

Dept. of Commerce Schedule B. No.	*Commodity*
	Dairy Products:
	Milk and Cream:
006200	Evaporated (unsweetened)
	Cheese, processed, blended and spreads:
006755	Processed American cheddar
006758	Other cheese, processed, blended and spreads
	Cheese, whether or not in original loaves, except any cheese processed other than by division into pieces:
006795	American cheddar
006798	Other
	Wood, Unmanufactured:
	Logs and hewn timber (indicate quantity scale) (include stumps and burls):
	Hardwoods (report burls in in 400600):
400200	Cottonwood and aspen
	Sawmill Products (Lumber):
	Boards, planks and scantlings, less than 5" in least dimension:
	Hardwoods:
411700	Ash.
413400	Wagon-oak planks (include railway car material).
	Small hardwood dimension stock:
413600	Handle blanks *only* [1]
	Wood Manufactures: [2]
421401	Plywood, aero grade.
421405	Plywood, hardwood, except aero grade.
421409	Plywood, softwood, except Douglas fir & aero grade.
422200	Lath.
422500	Shingles (square coverage of 100 sq. ft.)
	Other Nonmetallic Minerals, including Precious:
	Gypsum, and manufactures:
548400	Calcined (plaster of paris).
	Steel Mill Products:
603510	Steel sheets, black, ungalvanized (hot and cold rolled included) containing no alloy; .40% or more carbon content, only.[3]
603711	Iron and steel strip (cold rolled, containing no alloy); .40% or more carbon content, *only*.[4]
	Chemical Specialties:
823800	Arctic syntex M.
823800	Igepon T.
823800	Igepon TD.
823800	MP 189.
823800	MP 189 SX.
823800	MP 646.
823800	Nacconal HG.
823800	Nacconal NR.
823800	Nacconal NRG.
823800	Nacconal NRSF.
823800	Neutronyx 33.
823800	Santomerse No. 1.
823800	Santomerse No. 3.
823800	Santomerse No. 55.
823800	Synthetic detergent 92.
823800	Ultrawet A.
823800	Ultrawet 40 A.
823800	Ultrawet 60 A.
823800	Vel.

SPECIAL NOTICE

In an attempt to furnish exporters throughout the United States with equally prompt notification of all changes in the list of items subject to export licensing control, the Department of Commerce has instituted a system of teletype notification of such changes to its regional offices. An effort will be made to provide local publicity for this information. It must be emphasized, however, that the Department of Commerce can assume no responsibility for information concerning changes in its export control regulations other than that published in the official Current Export Bulletins and Comprehensive Export Schedules of the Department.

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[1] All commodities classified under Schedule B No. 413600 except handle blanks, picker stick blanks, and shuttle block blanks remain on the Positive List.

[2] Plywood, Douglas fir, other than aero grade, Schedule B No. 421407, remains on the Positive List.

[3] Steel sheets, black, ungalvanized (hot and cold rolled included) containing no alloy; with less than .40% carbon content, Schedule B No. 603510, remain on the Positive List.

[4] Iron and steel strip (cold rolled, containing no alloy), with less than .40% carbon content, *except* strapping, Schedule B No. 603711, remains on the Positive List.

The 1946 budget of the U. S. S. R. included 14,823,000,000 rubles for health protection and physical culture, reports the Soviet press. This sum was about 29 percent greater than the 1945 figure.

Are You Interested in the Proposed I.T.O. Charter? If So, Here's the Opportunity To Present Your Views at Hearings

The Department of State announced January 2 that a series of informal hearings will be held for the purpose of affording all interested persons and groups an opportunity to present their views regarding the proposed Charter for an International Trade Organization.

The proposed I. T. O. Charter, on which the hearings will be held, was prepared by the Preparatory Committee on Trade and Employment at its first meeting in London, October 15 to November 26, 1946. This Committee was created by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations by resolution of February 18, 1946, and consists of the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Preparatory Committee used as the basis for its work at London a text developed by experts within the United States Government and published by the Department of State in September 1946 under the title of "Suggested Charter for an International Trade Organization." Both the "Suggested Charter" and the new text issued by the Preparatory Committee are based on the fundamental principles of expanded trade and enlarged employment set forth in the *Proposals for Expansion of World Trade and Employment* presented by the Government of the United States in December 1945 for consideration by the governments and peoples of the world.

The Preparatory Committee will meet again in Geneva, Switzerland, beginning April 8, 1947, at which time it will complete its work on the proposed Charter with a view to making definite recommendations to a general International Conference on Trade and Employment to be held later. The instrument emerging from the general International Conference will be submitted to the Congress of the United States.

The hearings announced January 2 are intended to assist the interested agencies of the United States Government to obtain a full expression of American opinion in preparing for the Geneva meeting of the Preparatory Committee. These hearings will be conducted under the auspices of the Executive Committee on Economic Foreign Policy, which consists of representatives of the Departments of State, Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor and the United States Tariff Commission. The Chairman of the Committee is Willard L. Thorp, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

It should be noted that the hearings on the proposed Charter are separate and distinct from the hearings to be conducted, beginning January 13, 1947, by the Committee for Reciprocity Information in connection with reciprocal trade-agreement negotiations.

The hearings on the proposed Charter will be held at the following times and places:

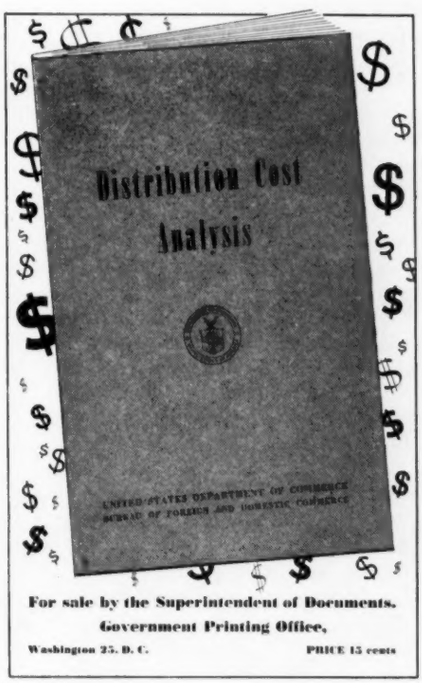
Washington, D. C.—Room 474, Department of State Building, Seventeenth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., beginning at 10:30 a. m., E. S. T., February 25, 1947.

Boston, Massachusetts, beginning at 10:30 a. m., E. S. T., March 3, 1947, at a place to be announced later by the Boston office of the Department of Commerce.

Chicago, Illinois, beginning at 10:30 a. m., C. S. T., March 3, 1947, at a place to be announced later by the Chicago office of the Department of Commerce.

New Orleans, Louisiana, beginning at 10:30 a. m., C. S. T., March 3, 1947, at a place to be announced later by the New Orleans office of the Department of Commerce.

San Francisco, California, beginning at 10:30 a. m., P. S. T., March 10, 1947, at a place to be announced later by the San Francisco office of the Department of Commerce.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BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. PRICE 15 cents

Denver, Colorado, beginning at 10:30 a. m., M. S. T., March 10, 1947, at a place to be announced later by the Denver office of the Department of Commerce.

All persons desiring to present oral views at these hearings should inform the Executive Secretary, Executive Committee on Economic Foreign Policy, Room 133, Department of State Building, Washington, D. C., in writing, by February 1, 1947. Each letter should state at which of the places listed above the writer wishes to present his oral views. All persons desiring to present oral views will be advised by the Executive Secretary regarding the time of their individual appearances. The meetings will be open to the public and the press.

Views in writing regarding the proposed Charter for an International Trade Organization should be transmitted to the Executive Secretary of the Committee, Room 133, Department of State Building, Washington, D. C., preferably before February 1, 1947, and in any event not later than March 1, 1947. It would be of assistance to the Committee if persons submitting written views could supply 10 copies.

A preliminary draft of the text of the proposed I. T. O. Charter on which views are solicited will be published in next week's issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY. A printed copy of the text, together with appropriate explanatory material from the Report of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee, will be made available shortly upon publication of the Report. Copies of these documents may be obtained from the Department of State, Washington, D. C., or from field offices of the Department of Commerce.

Brazil To Buy Machinery in Britain?

The acquisition of railroad equipment and industrial machinery is one of the aims of a Brazilian commission being sent to England.

Made up of representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Transportation, and the Bank of Brazil, the commission hopes to implement the so-called Anglo-Brazilian Agreement signed in London in September 1946. The deblocking of Brazil's frozen sterling also will be studied.

Australia's imports of phosphate rock from the United States in the fiscal year ended June 1946 totaled 1,426,000 hundredweight (1 hundredweight=112 pounds), worth £131,000.

Trade-Mark Applications

Brazil.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Diário Oficial. Opposition must be filed within 60 days from the date of publication.

Trade-mark	Class No. and product	Date of publication
		1946
Atomica	2—Insecticides	Nov. 12
Vita Juice	43—Orangeade	Nov. 13
Maggi	41—Animal foodstuffs	Do.
A. V.	17—Office supplies	Do.
M. P.	do	Do.
B. V.	do	Do.
R. A.	do	Do.

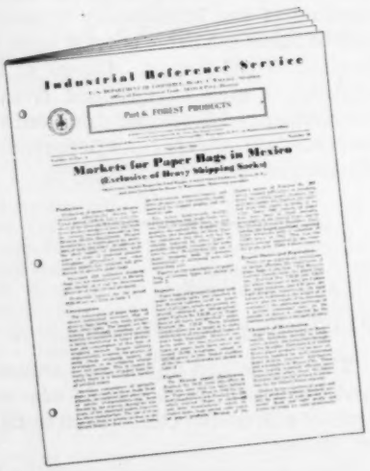
Spain.—Notice of application for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Boletín de la Propiedad Industrial of November 16, 1946. Opposition must be filed before January 16, 1947.

Trade-mark	Product	Date of publication
		1946
Celotex	Paper and cardboard	Nov. 16
Celotex	Bearings, gears, etc.	Do.
Asbes-Tech	Threads, yarns, machinery	Do.
Bakelite	Gums, rosins, patent leather	Do.
Celotex	Electric insulation	Do.
Electrite	Dyestuffs, inks, etc.	Do.
Fibrotex	Bearings, gears, wheels, etc.	Do.
Ferrodo	do	Do.
Ferrotex	do	Do.
Isolantite	Gums, rosins, etc.	Do.
Isolantite	Threads, yarns, etc.	Do.
Textoil	do	Do.
Nesbitt	Heating, ventilating apparatus.	Do.
Penicilyn	Pharmaceutical products	Do.

A new silk-weaving plant, reported to employ 1,200 operatives, recently opened at Ribeirao Preto, State of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Chocolate and sweets consumed by the Swedish people in 1945 had a value of about $56,000,000 or nearly $9 per head of population.

Industrial Reference Service



The Industrial Reference Service is issued in parts, each covering a major industry or group of associated industries. Coverage includes both foreign and domestic developments.

It is issued in loose-leaf printed form and designed for filing in standard three-ring binders. Some issues are illustrated.

Part 6, pictured above, deals with forest products. It is available on subscription or single copy basis; $1.50 a year, 5 cents a copy. Subscriptions may be entered with the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., or with any of the Department's Field Offices. Checks should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

The latest releases are listed below:

PART 6, VOLUME 4

No. 46 Market for Cigarette Paper and Glassine and Grease-Proof Paper in Honduras.

No. 47 Plywood and Veneer in South Africa.

No. 49 Markets for Facial Tissue, Handkerchiefs, Table Napkins, Toilet Paper, and Paper Towels in Mexico.

No. 50 Markets for Hard-Pressed Wallboard in Chile, Mexico, and Panama.

No. 51 Forest Resources, Lumber Industries and Trade in Ecuador.

No. 52 Markets for Cigarette Paper in Bolivia, El Salvador, Haiti and Paraguay.

No. 53 Markets for Paper Bags in Cuba, Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

No. 54 Markets for Paper Bags in Mexico.

News by COUNTRIES

(Continued from p. 15)

goods of all types and values will now apply to the import control authorities for import licenses only.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of March 3, 1945, and July 27 and November 16, 1946.]

Mexico

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Export Valuations Changed on Specified Items.—The official valuations for assessment of the 12-percent export tax in Mexico have been changed for a number of items by an administrative circular, published in the Diario Oficial of December 14, 1946, and effective December 21, 1946.

The new valuations in Mexican pesos per gross kilogram, unless otherwise specified, with former valuations in parentheses, are as follows:

Copra paste, 390 per gross ton (289); peanut paste, 458 per gross ton (307); peanut meal, 458 per gross ton (307); raw cotton, 2.84 (3.42); Diesel oil and fuel oil, 41.60 per cubic meter (40.35); gas oil, 54.60 per cubic meter (56.25); cotton cloth, woven, 12.15 (9.38); essential oil of lime, 10 (39); glazed tiles, including those of pottery, none (1.05); wooden clothes hangers, none (2.70); clothes hangers of wood with wire, 2.70 (2.70); other manufactured articles of wood of all kinds, not specified, 3.85 (3.85).

Tangku Harbor (China) Reopens to Shipping

The new Tangku Harbor, in China, was scheduled to open to shipping after a test on December 15. The opening of the harbor will enable ships to enter the port directly without any stops at the mouth of the Hai Ho and thus greatly facilitate shipping at this port.

Ships with a draft under 16 feet will be able to enter the port even at low tide. The construction of the new harbor, which was started at the end of the war, was only recently completed after more than 1 year of uninterrupted work.

The South African Fisheries Development Corporation has established an experimental culture bed for seaweeds which yield agar, according to a recent report in the British press.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1947